BULON'S FINGER IS ON THE TRIGGER THAT WILL ASSASSINATE FLASH--WHEN HE HEARS APPROACHING SOLDIERS AND HAS TO DIVE TO COVER.

IT IS THE DREADED "DEATH PATROL" WHO MAKES SURE THAT THERE IS NO ESCAPE AND NO HELP FOR THE DOOMED SOULS IN MING'S CONCENTRATION CAMP--
"WE SEE YOU!" BELLOWS AN OFFICER. "COME OUT OF THERE OR WE'LL OPEN FIRE!"

FLASH IS ABOUT TO RESCUE BULON--WHEN HE HEARS THAT YELLOW TRAITOR'S CRY--
"DON'T SHOOT ME! GET FLASH GORDON--HE'S HIDING OVER THERE!"

FLASH HALTS THE "DEATH PATROL" FOR A MOMENT WITH HIS ACCURATE FIRE--BUT THEIR NUMBERS AND GRIM WEAPONS DRIVE HIM TOWARD THE CLIFF'S EDGE.
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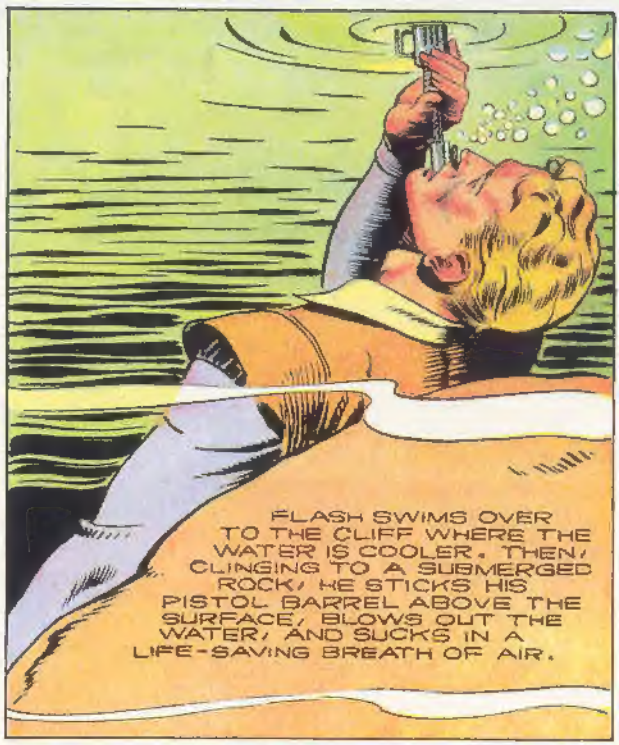
AT BAY, FLASH PLUNGES DARINGLY TOWARD THE RACING TORRENT BELOW.
1-19-41.

AS FLASH HITS THE WATER, THE PATROL RADIOS A SIGNAL AND FLAME-TUBES COVER THE ENTIRE STREAM WITH BLAZING THERMITION!
NEXT WEEK:
BATH OF FIRE



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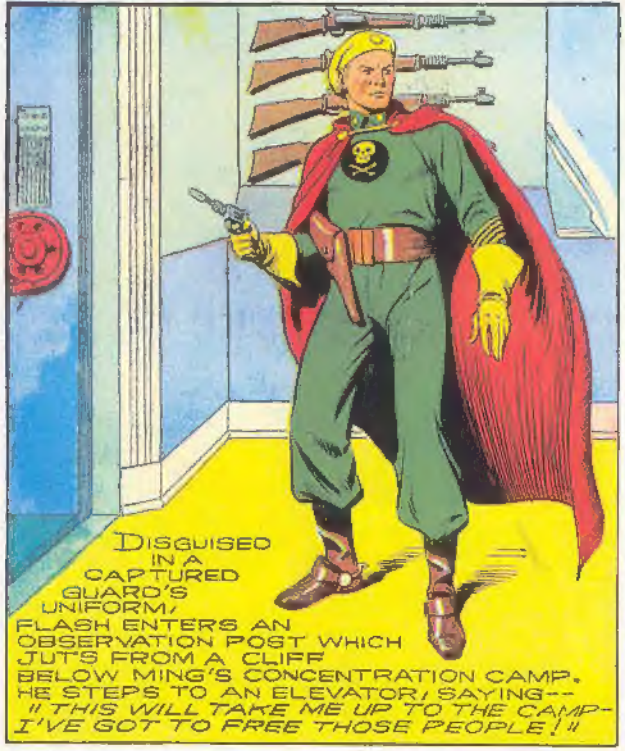
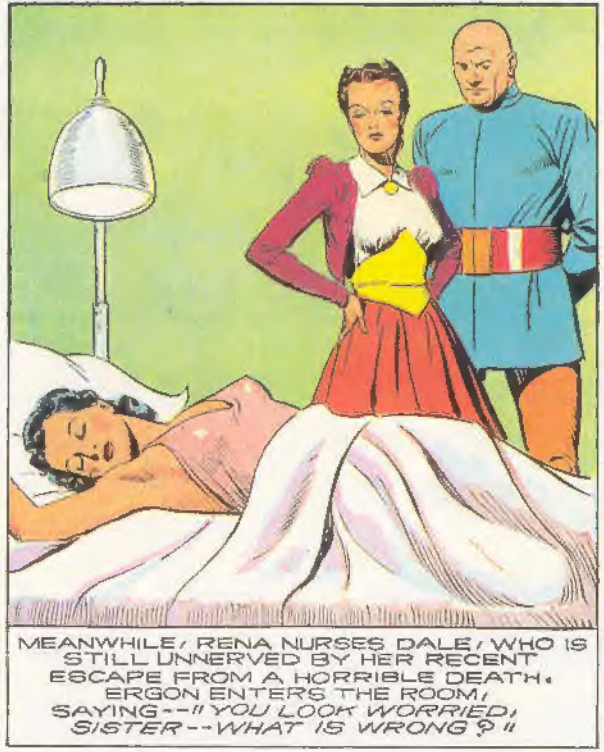

DISGUISED IN A CAPTURED GUARD'S UNIFORM, FLASH ENTERS AN OBSERVATION POST WHICH JUTS FROM A CLIFF BELOW MING'S CONCENTRATION CAMP. HE STEPS TO AN ELEVATOR, SAYING-- "THIS WILL TAKE ME UP TO THE CAMP- I'VE GOT TO FREE THOSE PEOPLE!"


MEANWHILE, RENA NURSES DALE, WHO IS STILL UNNERVED BY HER RECENT ESCAPE FROM A HORRIBLE DEATH. ERGON ENTERS THE ROOM, SAYING--"YOU LOOK WORRIED, SISTER--WHAT IS WRONG?"

"IT'S THAT JEALOUS FOOL, BULON!" RENA SNAPS. "I'M AFRAID HE'S PLANNING TO HARM FLASH!"
"S-SH!" WARNS ERGON, "THE DOCTOR SAID NOT TO MENTION HIS NAME--IT UPSETS DALE!"

LOVE FINALLY SUCCEEDS WHERE DOCTORS HAVE FAILED. AT THE MENTION OF FLASH'S NAME, DALE ROUSES FROM HER STUPOR AND SITS UP-- "WHAT ABOUT FLASH?" SHE CRIES, "IS HE IN DANGER?"
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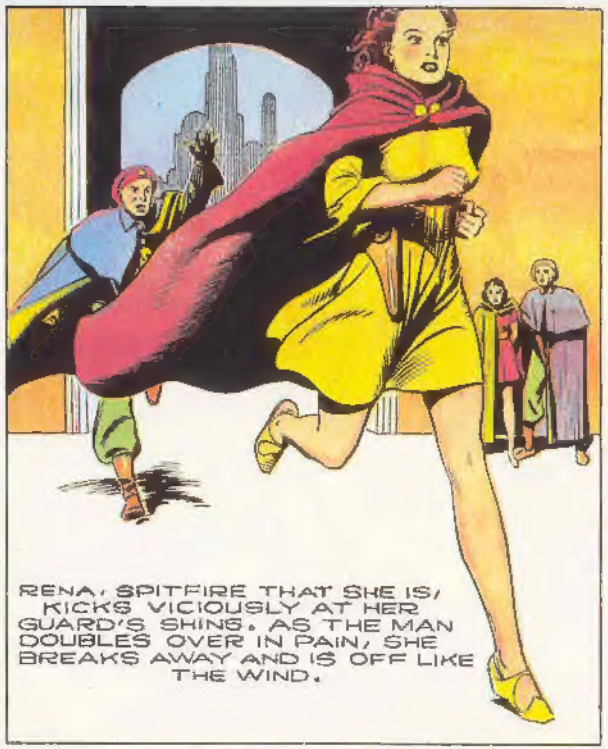
DRIVEN BY THEIR WELL-FOUNDED WORRY OVER FLASH, DALE AND RENA DEFY ERGON'S ORDERS AND STEP OUT INTO THE STREETS OF MINGO IN SEARCH OF THE MAN THEY LOVE.

MINGO'S SECRET POLICE STOP THEM--"YOU GIRLS ARE MUCH TOO PRETTY TO BE WALKING ALONE."
AN OFFICER LEERS---THEN GASPS-- "BY TAO'S TOENAILS! IT'S DALE!"
NEXT WEEK: DALE'S FATE
2-2-41.

WHILE FLASH BRAVELY VENTURES DEEPER INTO MING'S CONCENTRATION CAMP, DALE AND RENA HAVE BEEN CAUGHT BY MING'S SECRET POLICE. THEY FIGHT LIKE WILDCATS--BUT DALE GASPS WITH PAIN, AS AN OFFICER BRUTALLY TWISTS HER ARMS BEHIND HER AND SNAPS ON A PAIR OF HANDCUFFS.


RENA, SPITFIRE THAT SHE IS, KICKS VICIOUSLY AT HER GUARD'S SHINS. AS THE MAN DOUBLES OVER IN PAIN, SHE BREAKS AWAY AND IS OFF LIKE THE WIND.

THE STREETS QUICKLY SWARM WITH MING'S HIRED KILLERS-- RENA HIDES, UNABLE TO SAVE DALE FROM THE TYRANT'S POWER--

MEANWHILE, FLASH, IN A STOLEN UNIFORM, HAS ENTERED AN UNDERGROUND ELEVATOR WHICH HE HOPES WILL TAKE HIM TO A PASSAGEWAY TO THE CONCENTRATION CAMP.
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2-9-41.

FLASH STEPS FROM THE ELEVATOR INTO A TUNNEL--AND FINDS HIS WAY BARRED BY A SILENT, BUT EFFICIENT WATCHMAN--AN AUTOMATIC DEATH-RAY. HE WHIRLS ABOUT, AS HE SUDDENLY HEARS THE TRAMP OF AN APPROACHING PATROL.

TRAPPED, FLASH DUCKS THROUGH A METAL DOOR AND WAITS TENSELY. HE HEARS THE PATROL HALT OUTSIDE. HE DOESN'T KNOW THEY ARE GUARDS TAKING DALE TO THE CAMP!
NEXT WEEK:
THE DOORWAY OF DOOM

TRAPPED IN THE UNDERGROUND TUNNEL OF MING'S CONCENTRATION CAMP, FLASH DODGES BEHIND AN UNMARKED DOORWAY--TO FIND HIMSELF IN A CONTROL-ROOM OF THE DEATH-RAY SYSTEM.

MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE THE DOOR SERGEANT MORDO, WITH DALE A CAPTIVE, ORDERS A GUARD TO SHUT OFF THE DEATH-RAY AND LET THEM THROUGH. THE GUARD STEPS INTO THE CONTROL-ROOM--

NOT KNOWING THAT DALE IS JUST OUTSIDE THE DOOR, FLASH HIDES BEHIND THE DYNAMO TO SEE HOW THE DEATH-RAY CONTROLS WORK, SO HE CAN ENTER THE CAMP ON HIS RESCUE MISSION.

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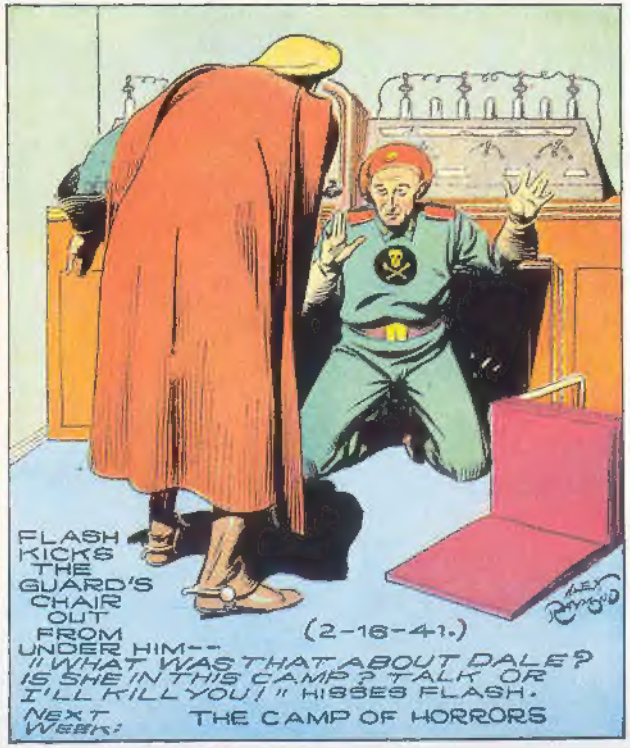
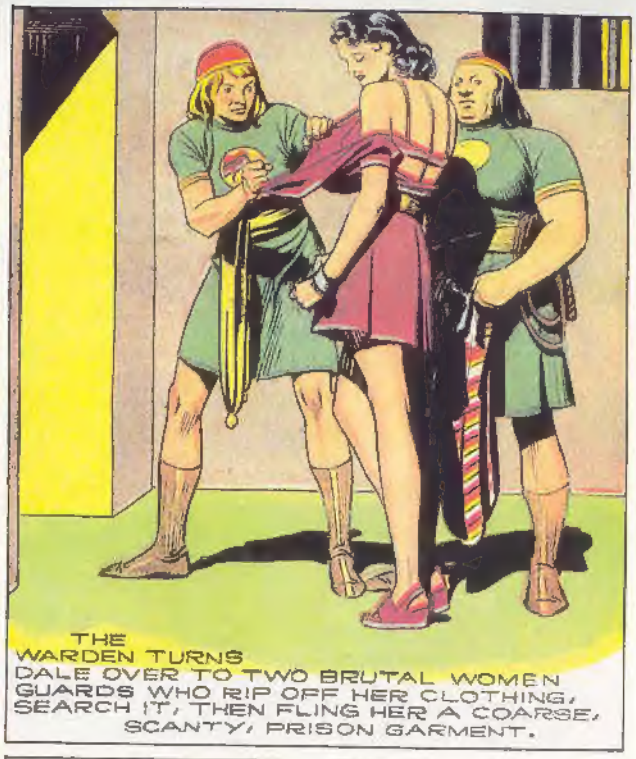
TAKING DALE PAST THE DANGER ZONE AND INTO THE CAMP OF THE DOOMED, SERGEANT MORDO ORDERS HIS HIDDEN GUARD TO TURN ON THE DEATH-RAY AGAIN AND AWAIT HIS RETURN.

THE GUARD RELAXES, WAITING TO PASS SERGEANT MORDO THROUGH THE DEATH-RAY ON HIS RETURN FROM THE PRISON CAMP--
"HM-M--," HE MUSES ALOUD, "THAT DALE ARDEN'S A NICE NUMBER--SHE'LL SOON LOSE HER LOOKS IN THIS DUMP, THOUGH--THEY ALL DO!"


FLASH KICKS THE GUARD'S CHAIR OUT FROM UNDER HIM--
(2-16-41.)
"WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT DALE? IS SHE IN THIS CAMP? TALK OR I'LL KILL YOU!" HISSES FLASH.
NEXT WEEK: THE CAMP OF HORRORS

SERGEANT MORDO, OF MING'S SECRET POLICE, TURNS DALE OVER TO THE WARDEN OF THE TYRANT'S CONCENTRATION CAMP--"I CLAIM THE EMPEROR'S REWARD, SIR," SAYS MORDO.

SUDDENLY, DALE TURNS ON HER CAPTOR, KICKING, FLAILING AND SCRATCHING--BUT MORDO TWISTS HER ARMS IN AN AGONIZING GRIP, SNARLING--"YOU LITTLE DEVIL! WE'LL SOON TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF YOU!"


THE WARDEN TURNS DALE OVER TO TWO BRUTAL WOMEN GUARDS WHO RIP OFF HER CLOTHING, SEARCH IT, THEN FLING HER A COARSE, SCANTY, PRISON GARMENT.

MORDO RETURNS THROUGH THE GUARDS' TUNNEL, GLOATING OVER HIS RECEIPT FOR DALE. HE DEMANDS PASSAGE THROUGH THE DEATH-RAY. FLASH ANSWERS THE SUMMONS--

FLASH LETS MORDO THROUGH--THEN HE STEPS FROM THE CONTROL-ROOM TO FACE HIM. "YOU HERE? I THOUGHT WE'D KILLED YOU!" MORDO GASPS--THEN, WITHOUT WARNING, HE GOES FOR HIS GUN--
2-23-41.
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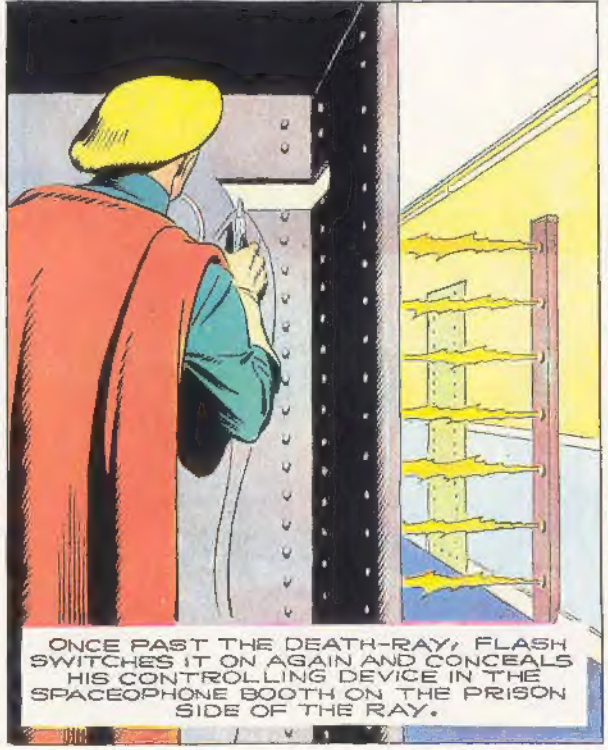
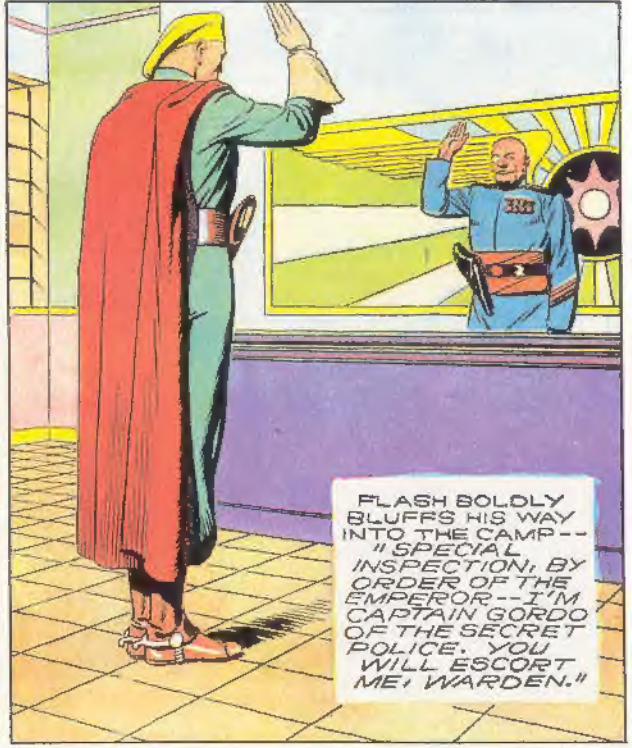
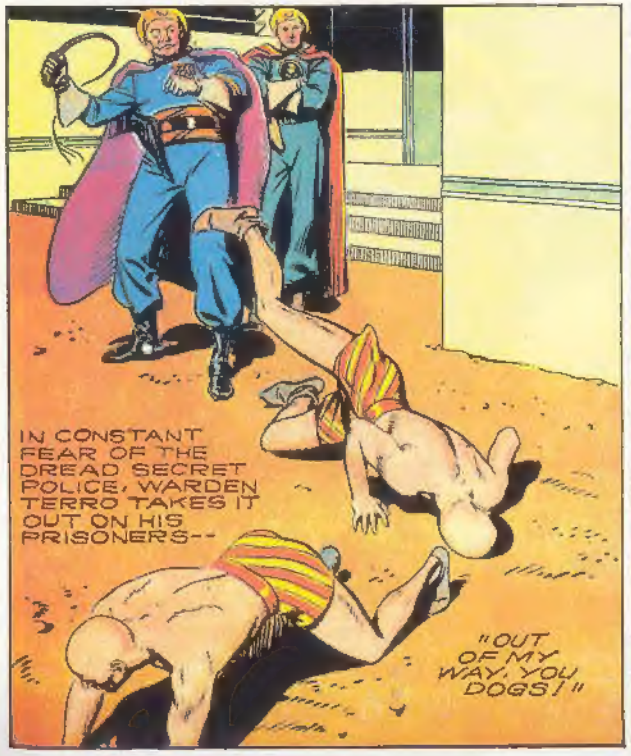
FLASH LEAPS TO ONE SIDE, WHIPPING OUT HIS PISTOL. MORDO'S SHOT WHINES PAST HIS EAR--BUT FLASH'S SHOT CARRIES STRAIGHT AND TRUE.
ALEX RAYMOND
NEXT WEEK: THE LONE RESCUER-







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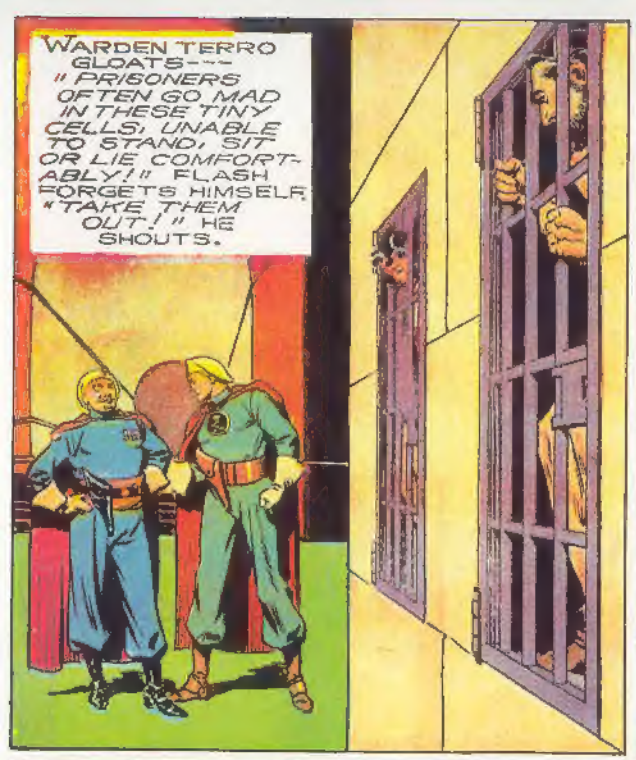
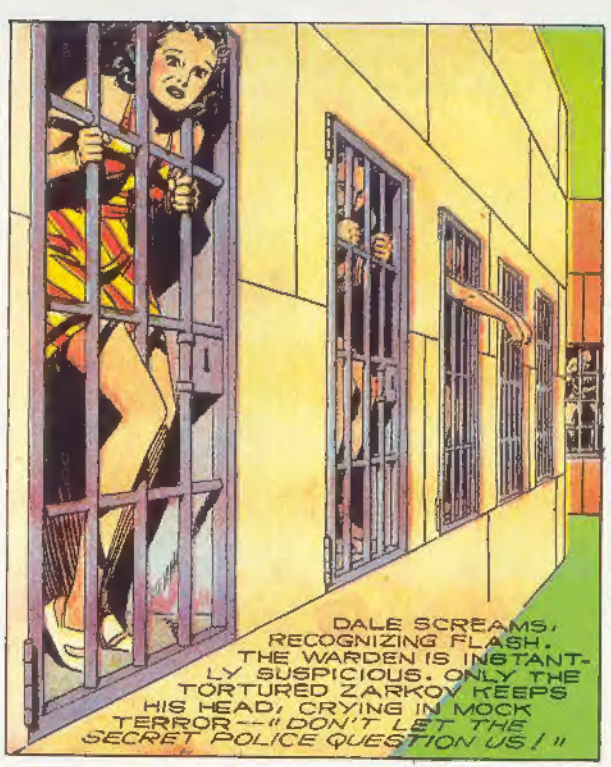

WARDEN TERRO GLOATS--- "PRISONERS OFTEN GO MAD IN THESE TINY CELLS, UNABLE TO STAND, SIT OR LIE COMFORTABLY!" FLASH FORGETS HIMSELF. "TAKE THEM OUT!" HE SHOUTS.


DALE SCREAMS, RECOGNIZING FLASH. THE WARDEN IS INSTANTLY SUSPICIOUS. ONLY THE TORTURED ZARKOV KEEPS HIS HEAD, CRYING IN MOCK TERROR--"DON'T LET THE SECRET POLICE QUESTION US!"

SWIFTLY, FLASH TAKES HIS CUE--"I WANT TO QUESTION THESE TWO ABOUT THE REBEL FREEMEN BEFORE THEY'RE TOO FAR GONE TO TALK!" "WHY, CERTAINLY, CAPTAIN," SAYS THE REASSURED WARDEN.

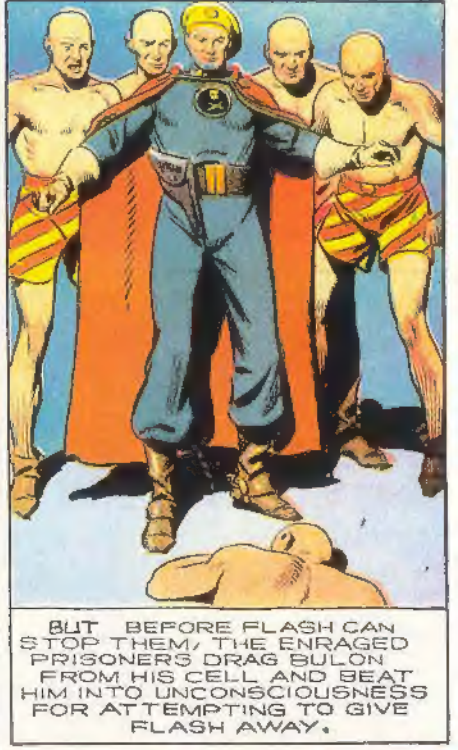
DALE FALLS INTO FLASH'S ARMS, SOBBING, "SAVE ME, FLA---" BUT FLASH, WITH A HEAVY HEART, MUFFLES HER WORDS BY SNARLING--"SHUT UP, WENCH! SAVE YOUR BREATH TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS!"

FLASH CARRIES THE SOBBING GIRL WITH HIDDEN TENDERNESS TOWARD THE PRISON QUESTION-ROOM. ZARKOV AND THE WARDEN FOLLOW.

IN ONE OF THE CELLS, BULON TASTES MING'S REWARD FOR TREACHERY. BUT HATING FLASH EVEN MORE THAN THE EMPEROR, HE SHOUTS OUT--"WARDEN! SOUND THE ALARM! THAT'S FLASH GORDON!"
NEXT WEEK:
OUT OF THE FRYING-PAN~

AT BULON'S CRY OF RECOGNITION, WARDEN TERRO JERKS OUT HIS GUN AND FIRES AT FLASH--BUT HIS SHOT GOES WILD AS ZARKOV TRIPS HIM UP---

BEFORE THE WARDEN CAN FIRE AGAIN, FLASH DROPS HIM WITH HIS GUN-BUTT. THEN, FREEING ZARKOV'S HANDS, SO THAT THE DOCTOR CAN BIND AND GAG THE UNCONSCIOUS WARDEN, HE FREES THE PRISONERS.


BUT BEFORE FLASH CAN STOP THEM, THE ENRAGED PRISONERS DRAG BULON FROM HIS CELL AND BEAT HIM INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS FOR ATTEMPTING TO GIVE FLASH AWAY.

FLASH HURRIEDLY HERDS THE PRISONERS INTO THE QUESTION-ROOM. IT IS NOT THE FIRST TIME SOME OF THESE UNFORTUNATES HAVE BEEN IN THIS GRISLY CHAMBER!

THEN, AFTER STATIONING HIS NEW ALLIES AT ADVANTAGEOUS POINTS ABOUT THE ROOM, FLASH SUMMONS THE SUB-WARDEN, TORNO.
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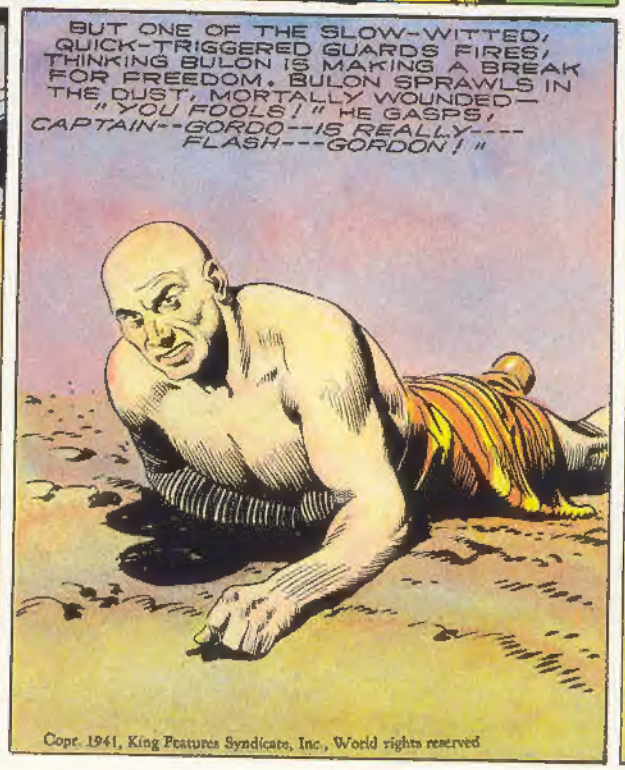
A FEW MOMENTS LATER, THERE IS A KNOCK ON THE DOOR—"CAPTAIN GORDO--ARE YOU THERE?" FLASH DRAWS HIS GUN—"COME IN, TORNO!"
NEXT WEEK:
THE FATAL ALARM
3-16-41.

FLASH CAPTURES TORNO, ACTING WARDEN OF MING'S CONCENTRATION CAMP.
TORNO GASPS— "WHY, YOU'RE---" "YES," INTERRUPTS FLASH, "I'M FLASH GORDON AND I'M ROUGH ON RATS! COME IN AND SHUT THE DOOR!"

FLASH LEADS TORNO TO A SPACEOPHONE—"ORDER YOUR GUARDS TO ASSEMBLE ALL PRISONERS IN THE QUADRANGLE. NO TRICKS, OR ELSE---" BUT TORNO KNOWS BETTER THAN TO RESIST.

FLASH MARCHES TORNO, BULON, ZARKOV AND DALE TO THE WARDEN'S OFFICE, AS THE NEXT STEP IN HIS DARING SCHEME TO RESCUE ALL THE VICTIMS OF MING'S CRUELTY.

AS THEY PASS SOME GUARDS, THE TRAITOR, BULON, DRIVEN BY FEAR AND HATE, DEFIES FLASH'S GUN TO SPREAD THE ALARM--
3-23-41.


BUT ONE OF THE SLOW-WITTED, QUICK-TRIGGERED GUARDS FIRES, THINKING BULON IS MAKING A BREAK FOR FREEDOM. BULON SPRAWLS IN THE DUST, MORTALLY WOUNDED— "YOU FOOLS!" HE GASPS, CAPTAIN--GORDO--IS REALLY---- FLASH---GORDON!"
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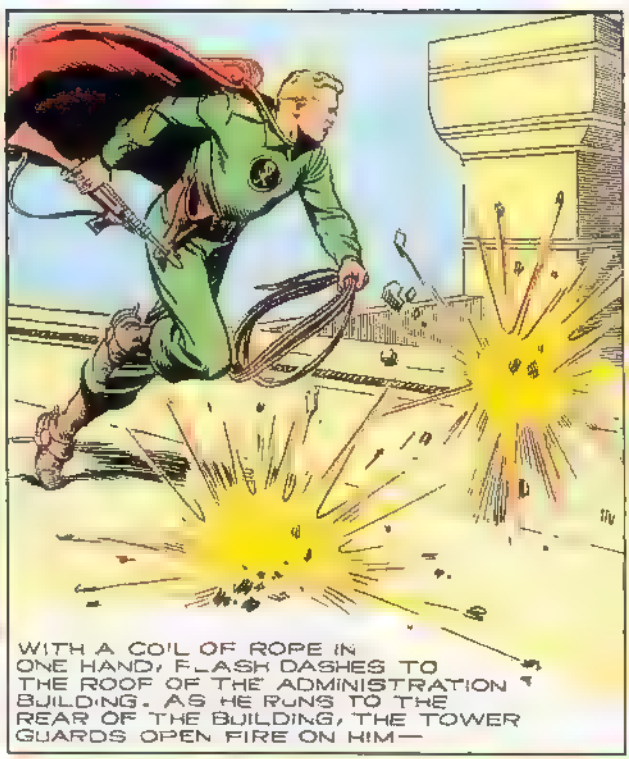
FLASH'S LITTLE BAND REACHES THE WARDEN'S OFFICE, AS THE CAMP'S SIRENS BELLOW A WARNING—"STAY IN THERE," FLASH ORDERS, "I HAVE WORK TO DO!"
NEXT WEEK ONE-MAN RAID

FLASH SURVEYS THE CAMP THROUGH THE WARDEN'S ONE-WAY WINDOW. THE GUARDS, WARNED BY THE ALARM, COVER THE PRISONERS WITH MOBILE FIELD PIECES—

SUDDENLY, HE RIPS AN ELECTRO-RIFLE FROM THE WALL—"I'M THE LAST HOPE OF THOSE POOR PRISONERS," HE GROWLS, "AND, BY GOSH, I'M NOT GOING TO LET THEM DOWN!"


WITH A COIL OF ROPE IN ONE HAND, FLASH DASHES TO THE ROOF OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. AS HE RUNS TO THE REAR OF THE BUILDING, THE TOWER GUARDS OPEN FIRE ON HIM—

MAKING ONE END OF THE ROPE FAST TO THE ROOF HE STEPS OVER THE EDGE AND LOWERS HIMSELF TO THE GROUND—
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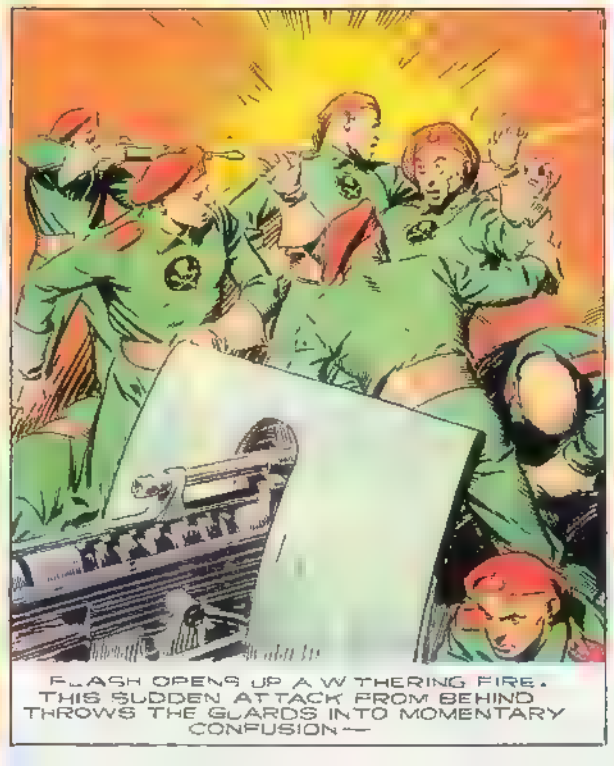
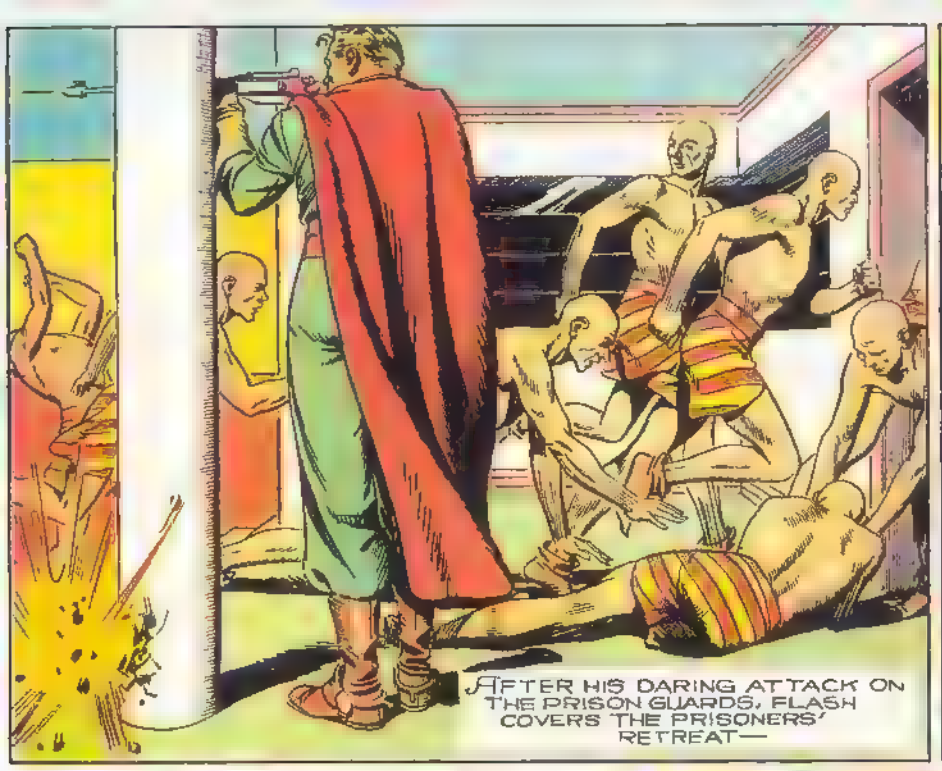
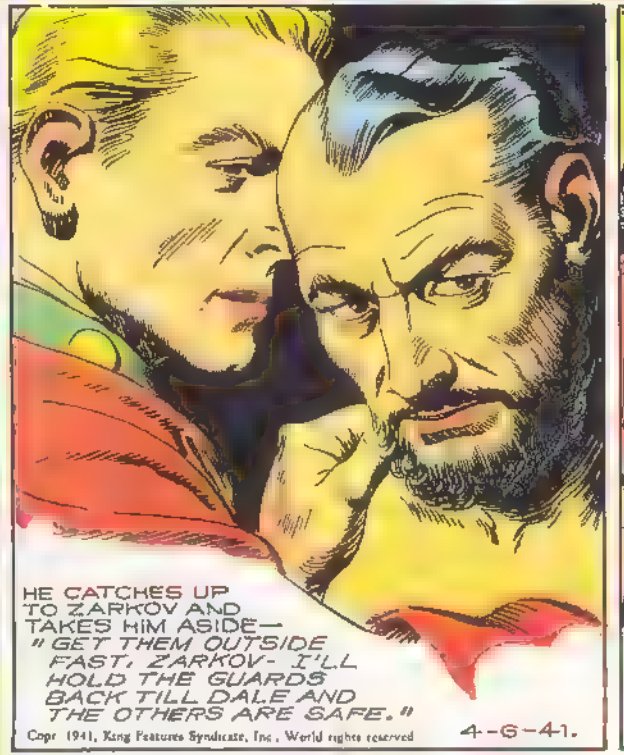

FLASH OPENS UP A WHITHERING FIRE. THIS SUDDEN ATTACK FROM BEHIND THROWS THE GUARDS INTO MOMENTARY CONFUSION—

BEFORE THE SURPRISED TROOPS CAN REORGANIZE, THE PRISONERS SWARM OVER THEM, FIGHTING LIKE DEMONS. FLASH'S VOICE RISES ABOVE THE DIN—
"FOLLOW ME! TO FREEDOM!"
NEXT WEEK:
A TRAGIC CHOICE


AFTER HIS DARING ATTACK ON THE PRISON GUARDS, FLASH COVERS THE PRISONERS' RETREAT—

INSIDE THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, DALE POINTS THE WAY TO THE ESCAPE TUNNEL.

FLASH DELAYS THE TROOPS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. THEN, THE LAST TO ENTER THE TUNNEL, HE SLAMS AND BOLTS THE GREAT METAL DOOR—


HE CATCHES UP TO ZARKOV AND TAKES HIM ASIDE—
"GET THEM OUTSIDE FAST, ZARKOV- I'LL HOLD THE GUARDS BACK TILL DALE AND THE OTHERS ARE SAFE."
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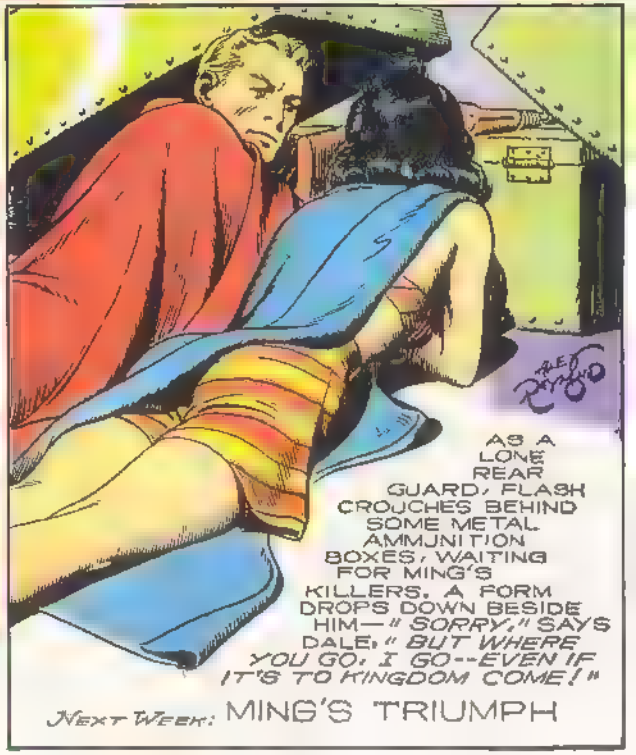
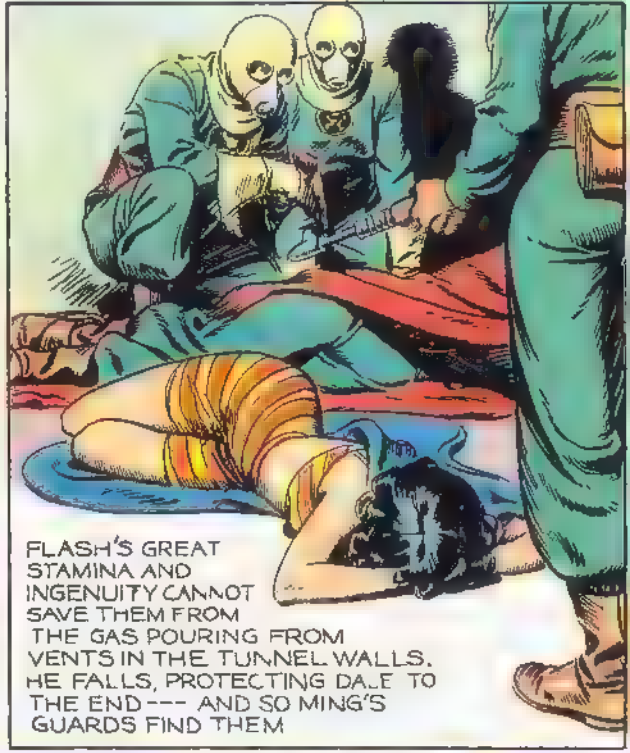
4-6-41.


AS A LONE REAR GUARD, FLASH CROUCHES BEHIND SOME METAL AMMUNITION BOXES, WAITING FOR MING'S KILLERS. A FORM DROPS DOWN BESIDE HIM—"SORRY," SAYS DALE, "BUT WHERE YOU GO, I GO--EVEN IF IT'S TO KINGDOM COME!"
NEXT WEEK: MING'S TRIUMPH

AS MING'S POLITICAL PRISONERS FLEE THE CONCENTRATION CAMP, FLASH BARRICADES H MSELF IN THE ESCAPE TUNNEL AND HOLDS BACK THE PURSUING SOLDIERS. DESPITE FLASH'S PLEAS, DALE REFUSES TO LEAVE HIS SIDE.

THE TROOPS SOON BLAST AWAY FLASH'S MAKESHIFT BARRICADE AND HE IS FORCED TO RETREAT, FIGHTING EVERY STEP OF THE WAY
SUDDENLY DALE GASPS—"FLASH-- I-I CAN'T BREATHE--"


FLASH'S GREAT STAMINA AND INGENUITY CANNOT SAVE THEM FROM THE GAS POURING FROM VENTS IN THE TUNNEL WALLS. HE FALLS, PROTECTING DALE TO THE END--- AND SO MING'S GUARDS FIND THEM

FLASH AND DALE'S HEROIC SACRIFICE HAS MADE THE PRISONERS' ESCAPE POSSIBLE. ZARKOV MOTIONS THEM TO COVER, AS A ROCKET FLEET ROARS OVERHEAD. "THE EMPEROR!" CRIES A PRISONER.

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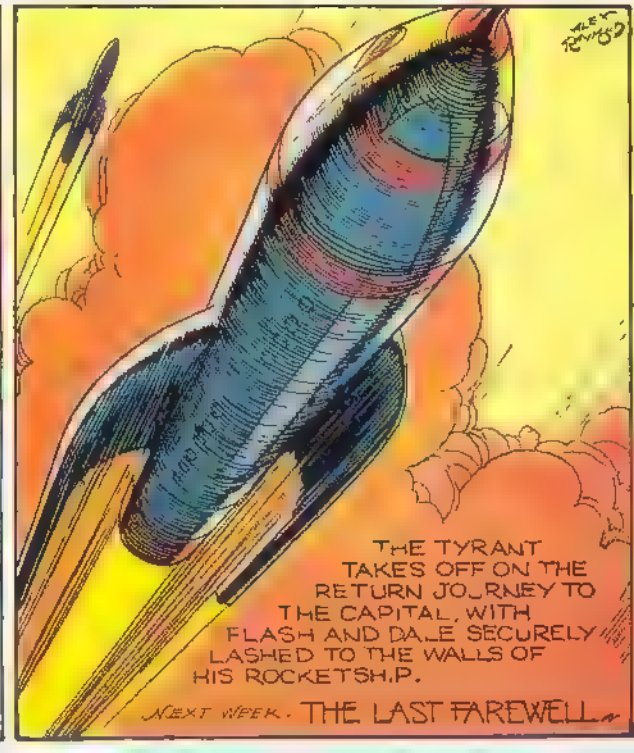
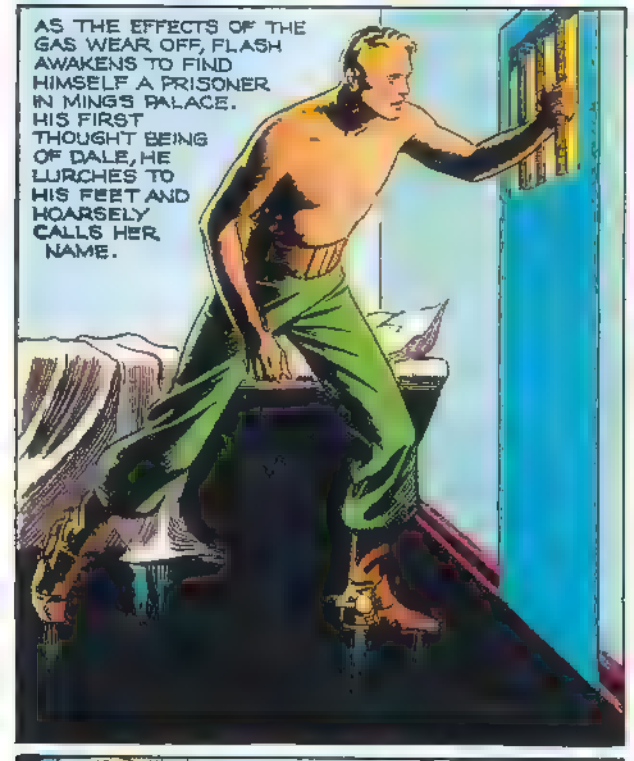
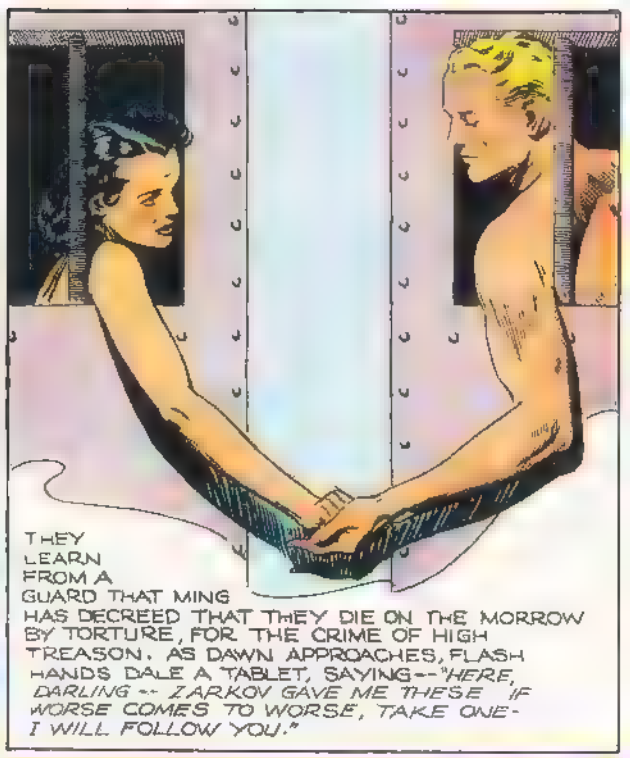
MING FLIES TO HIS CONCENTRATION CAMP, FURIOUS AT THE NEWS THAT ALL BUT TWO OF HIS PRISONERS HAVE ESCAPED, BUT WHEN HE SEES WHO THEY ARE, HIS EVIL JOY KNOWS NO BOUNDS.
4-13

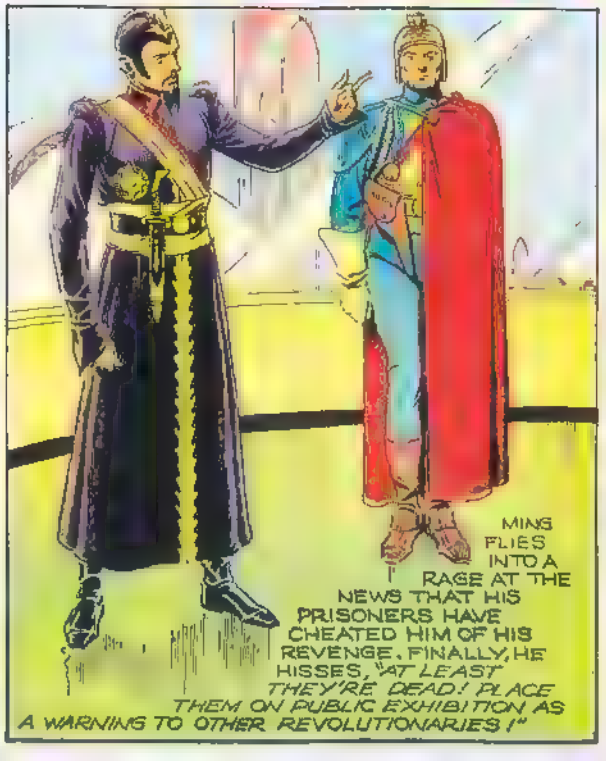

THE TYRANT TAKES OFF ON THE RETURN JOURNEY TO THE CAPITAL, WITH FLASH AND DALE SECURELY LASHED TO THE WALLS OF HIS ROCKETSH.P.
NEXT WEEK. THE LAST FAREWELL

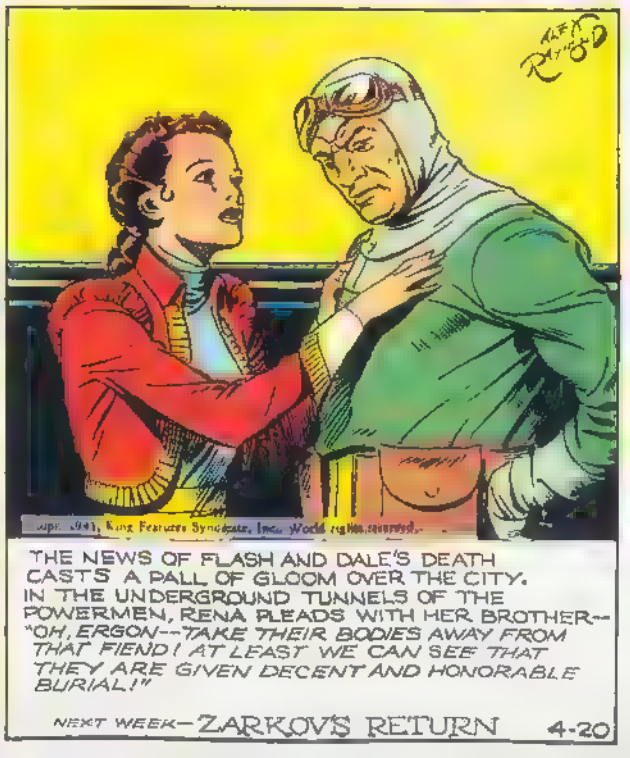

AS THE EFFECTS OF THE GAS WEAR OFF, FLASH AWAKENS TO FIND HIMSELF A PRISONER IN MINGS PALACE. HIS FIRST THOUGHT BEING OF DALE, HE LURCHES TO HIS FEET AND HOARSELY CALLS HER NAME.

DALE CLINGS WEAKLY TO THE DOOR OF THE CELL ADJOINING FLASH. SHE CHOKES BACK A SOB OF RELIEF, AS SHE ANSWERS "HERE, MY SWEET -- HERE I AM!"


THEY LEARN FROM A GUARD THAT MING HAS DECREED THAT THEY DIE ON THE MORROW BY TORTURE, FOR THE CRIME OF HIGH TREASON. AS DAWN APPROACHES, FLASH HANDS DALE A TABLET, SAYING--"HERE, DARLING -- ZARKOV GAVE ME THESE IF WORSE COMES TO WORSE, TAKE ONE- I WILL FOLLOW YOU."

AT THE APPROACHING TREAD OF THE DETAIL THAT IS TO CONDUCT THEM TO THE R. DOOM, DALE SWALLOWS HER PILL, GASPS A FAREWELL TO FLASH AND COLLAPSES. WHEN THE OFFICER IN CHARGE ENTERS HER CELL, SHE IS APPARENTLY LIFELESS.


MING FLIES INTO A RAGE AT THE NEWS THAT HIS PRISONERS HAVE CHEATED HIM OF HIS REVENGE. FINALLY, HE HISSES, "AT LEAST THEY'RE DEAD! PLACE THEM ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION AS A WARNING TO OTHER REVOLUTIONARIES!"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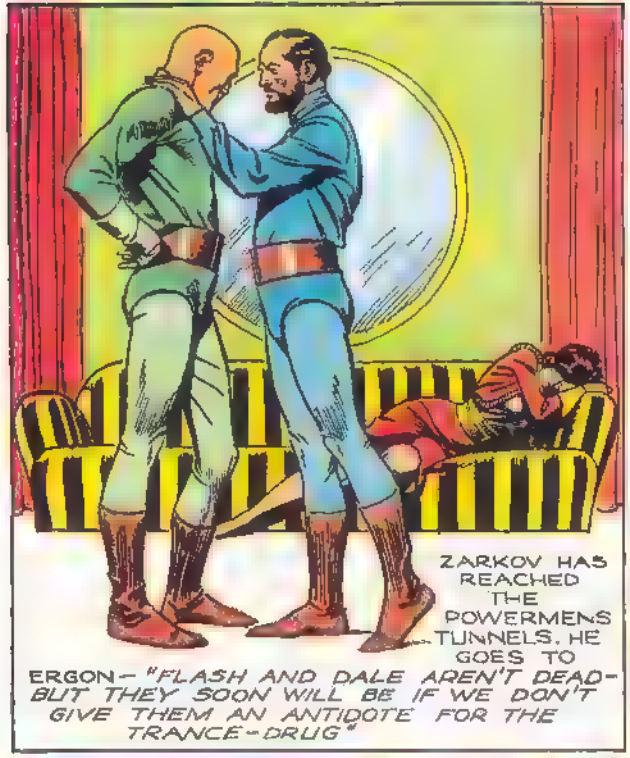
THE NEWS OF FLASH AND DALE'S DEATH CASTS A PALL OF GLOOM OVER THE CITY. IN THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS OF THE POWERMEN, RENA PLEADS WITH HER BROTHER-- "OH, ERGON--TAKE THEIR BODIES AWAY FROM THAT FIEND! AT LEAST WE CAN SEE THAT THEY ARE GIVEN DECENT AND HONORABLE BURIAL!"
NEXT WEEK—ZARKOV'S RETURN


ZARKOV HAS REACHED THE POWERMENS TUNNELS. HE GOES TO
ERGON– "FLASH AND DALE AREN'T DEAD– BUT THEY SOON WILL BE IF WE DON'T GIVE THEM AN ANTIDOTE FOR THE TRANCE-DRUG"

THE NEWS OF FLASH'S DEATH HAS AROUSED THE CRUELLY OPPRESSED CITIZENS OF MINGO TO OPEN REBELLION. ALL NIGHT LONG A HOWLING, THREATENING MOB BESIEGES MING'S PALACE.

"I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT, SIRE," A GENERAL SAYS TO MING. "I WOULDN'T ADVISE HOLDING THE PUBLIC FUNERAL PROCESSION!"
"WHEN," ASKS MING "HAVE I BEEN SWAYED BY A CATERWAULING MOB? WE'LL HOLD THE PROCESSION -- IN TANKS! IF THERE'S A DEMONSTRATION, WE'LL CHANGE THEIR HOWLS TO SHRIEKS FOR MERCY!"

NEXT MORNING THE PROCESSION BEARING FLASH AND DALE'S BODIES, LEAVES THE PALACE GROUNDS. A HEAVILY-CHARGED SILENCE HANGS OVER THE CITY---
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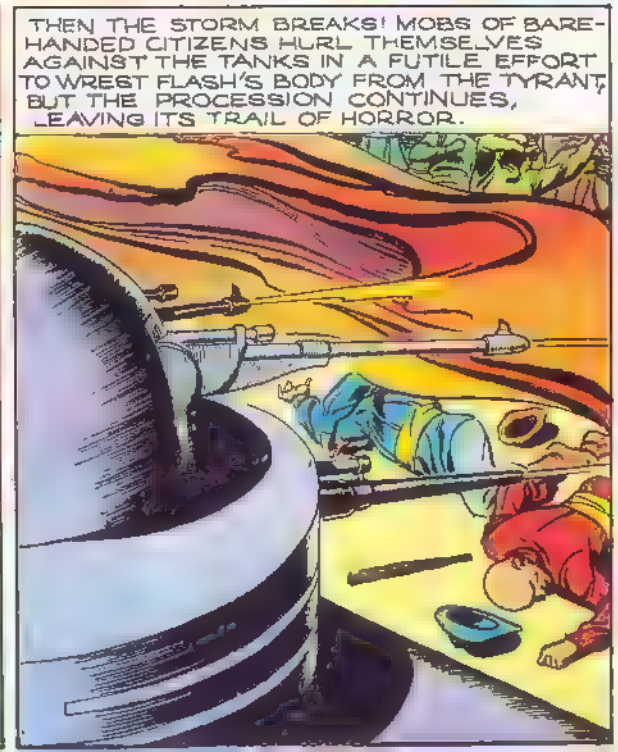
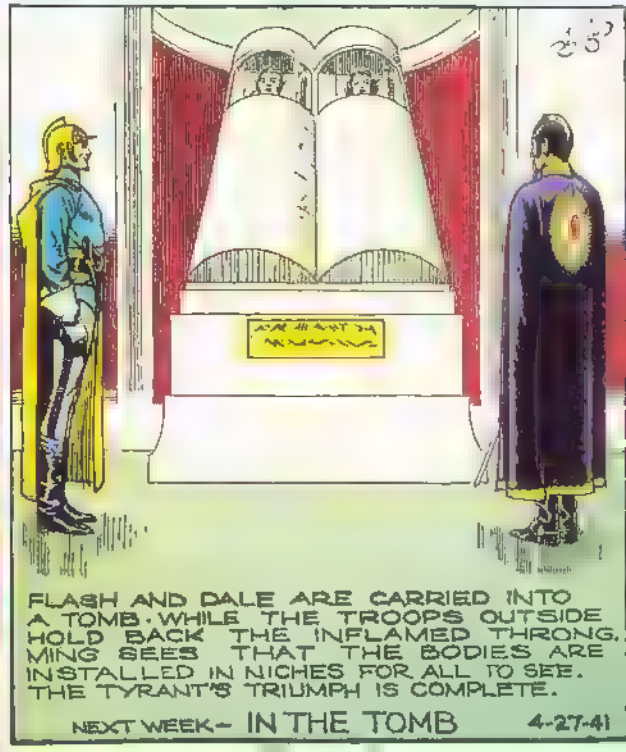
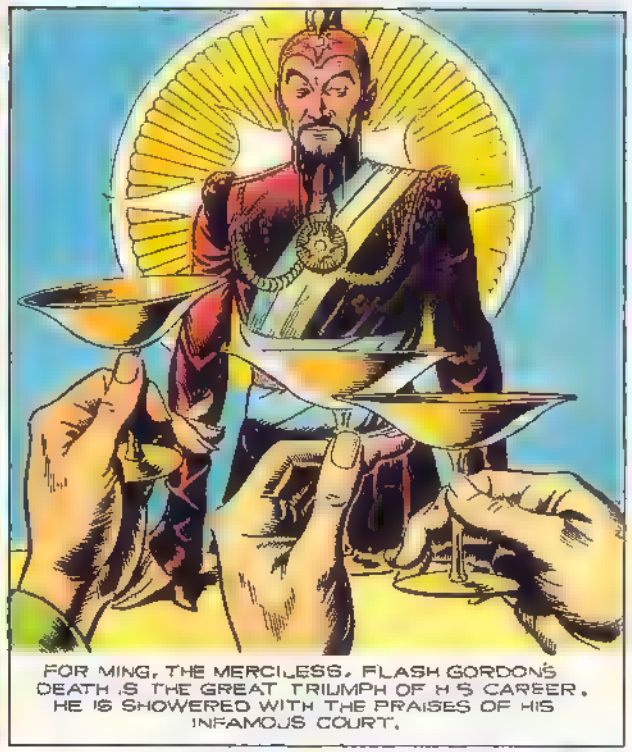

THEN THE STORM BREAKS! MOBS OF BARE-HANDED CITIZENS HURL THEMSELVES AGAINST THE TANKS IN A FUTILE EFFORT TO WREST FLASH'S BODY FROM THE TYRANT, BUT THE PROCESSION CONTINUES, LEAVING ITS TRAIL OF HORROR.


FLASH AND DALE ARE CARRIED INTO A TOMB. WHILE THE TROOPS OUTSIDE HOLD BACK THE INFLAMED THRONG, MING SEES THAT THE BODIES ARE INSTALLED IN NICHES FOR ALL TO SEE. THE TYRANT'S TRIUMPH IS COMPLETE.
NEXT WEEK– IN THE TOMB
4-27-41



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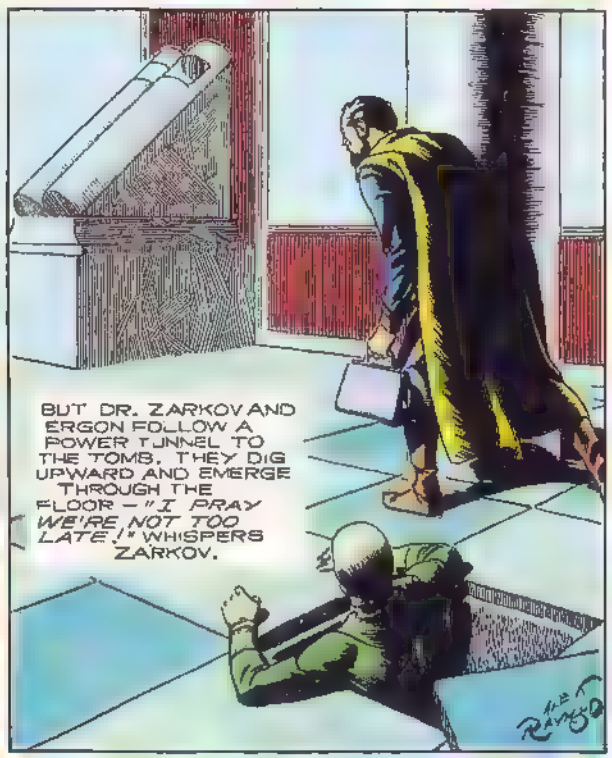
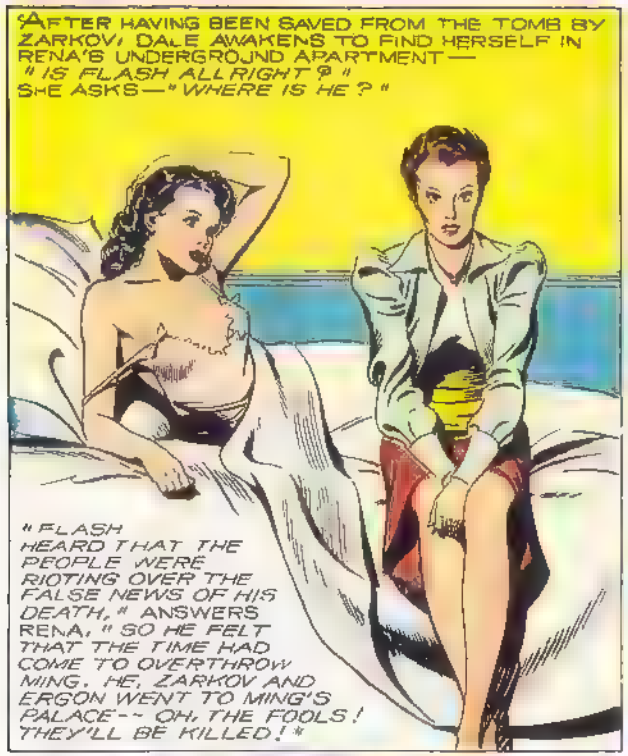
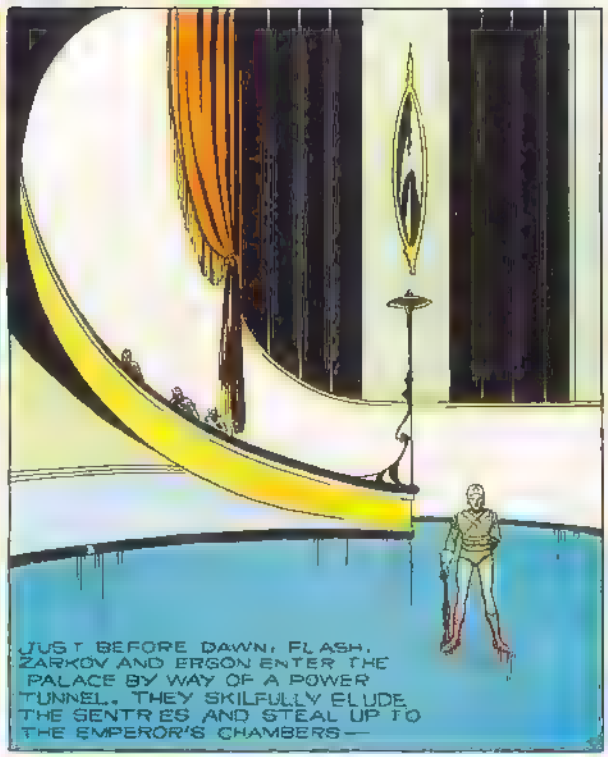
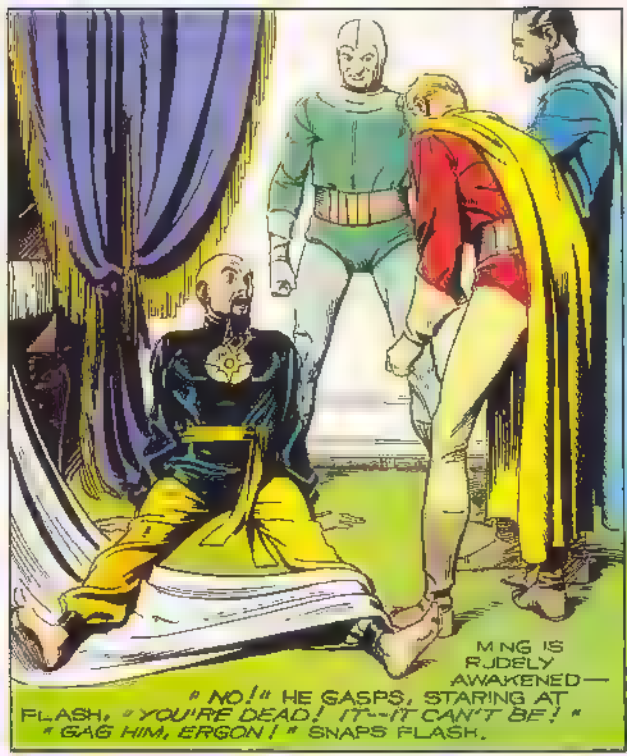
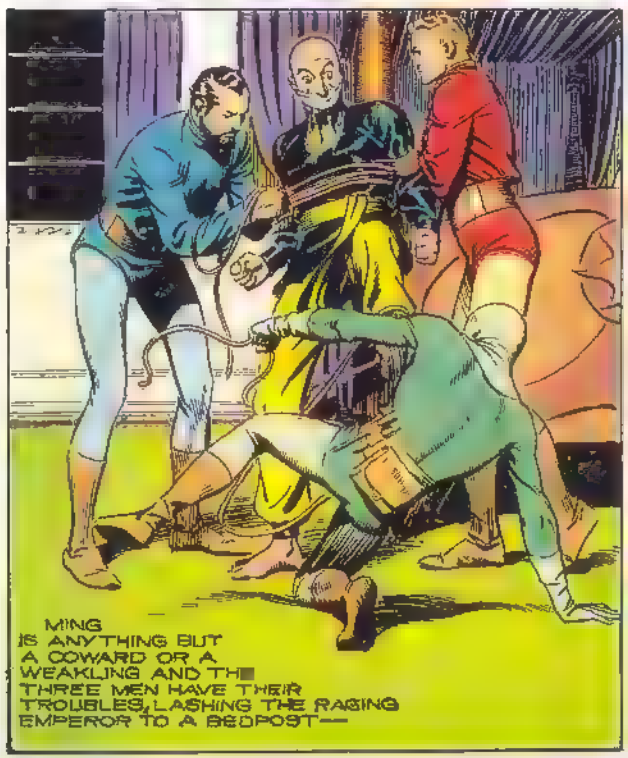
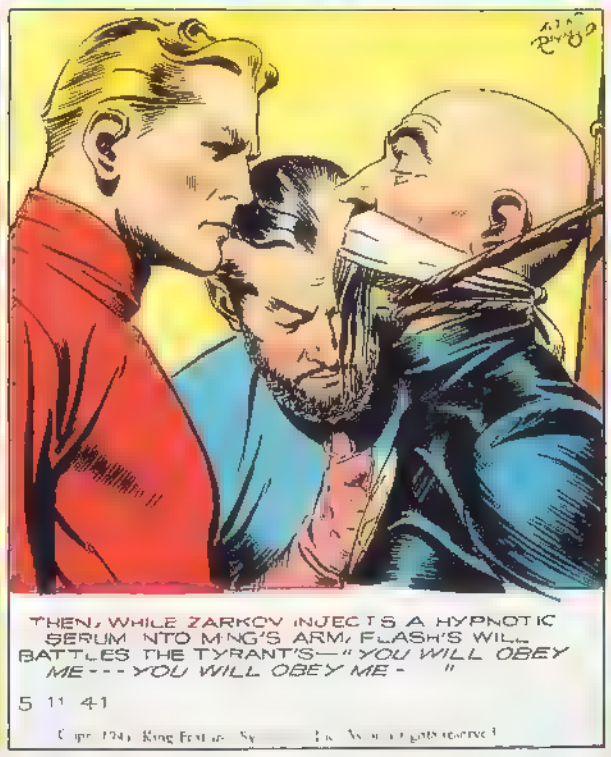


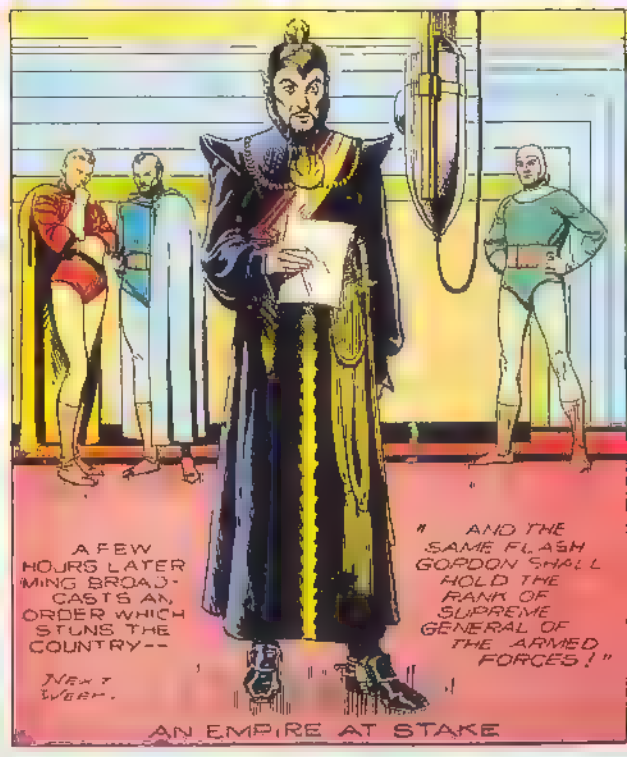

AFTER HAVING BEEN SAVED FROM THE TOMB BY ZARKOV, DALE AWAKENS TO FIND HERSELF IN RENA'S UNDERGROUND APARTMENT— "IS FLASH ALL RIGHT?" SHE ASKS—"WHERE IS HE?"
"FLASH HEARD THAT THE PEOPLE WERE RIOTING OVER THE FALSE NEWS OF HIS DEATH," ANSWERS RENA, "SO HE FELT THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO OVERTHROW MING. HE, ZARKOV AND ERGON WENT TO MING'S PALACE-- OH, THE FOOLS! THEY'LL BE KILLED!"

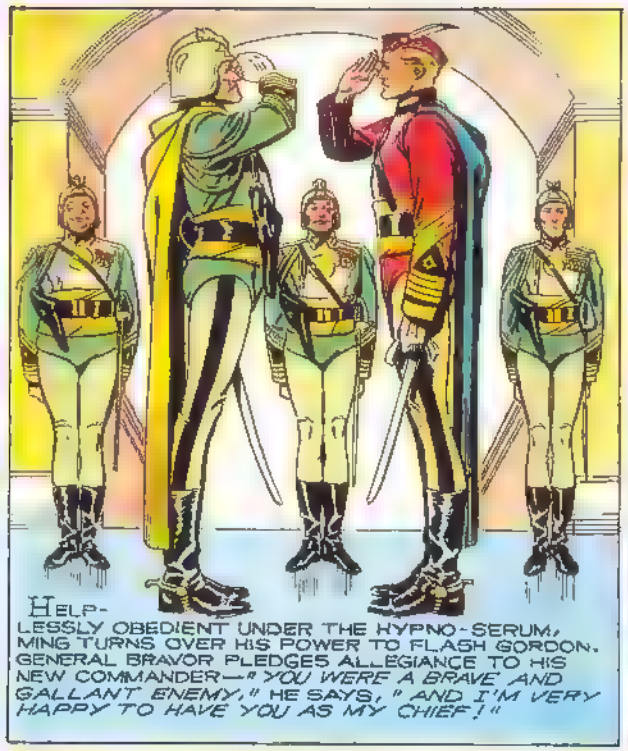

JUST BEFORE DAWN, FLASH, ZARKOV AND ERGON ENTER THE PALACE BY WAY OF A POWER TUNNEL. THEY SKILFULLY ELUDE THE SENTRIES AND STEAL UP TO THE EMPEROR'S CHAMBERS—


MING IS RUDELY AWAKENED—
"NO!" HE GASPS, STARING AT FLASH, "YOU'RE DEAD! IT--IT CAN'T BE!"
"GAG HIM, ERGON!" SNAPS FLASH.

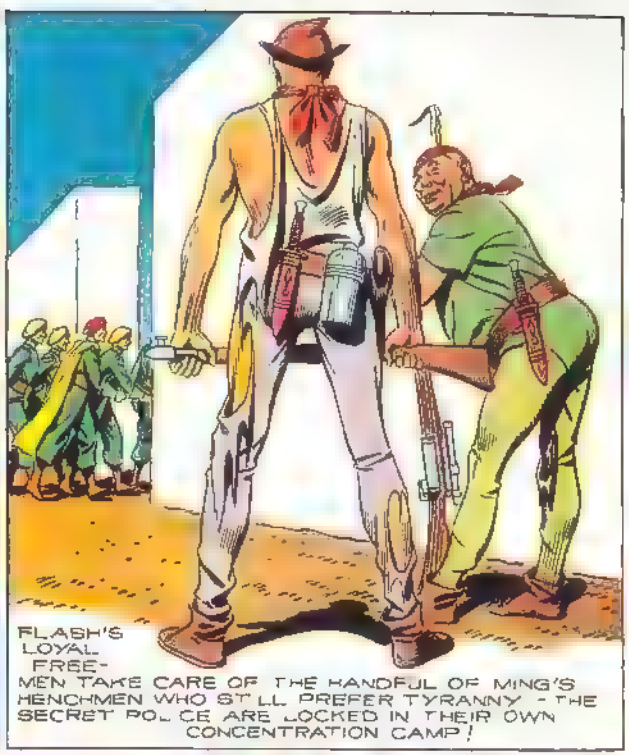

MING IS ANYTHING BUT A COWARD OR A WEAKLING AND THE THREE MEN HAVE THEIR TROUBLES, LASHING THE RAGING EMPEROR TO A BEDPOST—


THEN, WHILE ZARKOV INJECTS A HYPNOTIC SERUM INTO MING'S ARM, FLASH'S WILL BATTLES THE TYRANT'S—"YOU WILL OBEY ME--- YOU WILL OBEY ME- "
5 11 41


A FEW HOURS LATER MING BROADCASTS AN ORDER WHICH STUNS THE COUNTRY--
"AND THE SAME FLASH GORDON SHALL HOLD THE RANK OF SUPREME GENERAL OF THE ARMED FORCES!"
NEXT WEEK.
AN EMPIRE AT STAKE


HELP-
LESSLY OBEDIENT UNDER THE HYPNO-SERUM, MING TURNS OVER HIS POWER TO FLASH GORDON. GENERAL BRAVOR PLEDGES ALLEGIANCE TO HIS NEW COMMANDER—"YOU WERE A BRAVE AND GALLANT ENEMY," HE SAYS, "AND I'M VERY HAPPY TO HAVE YOU AS MY CHIEF!"

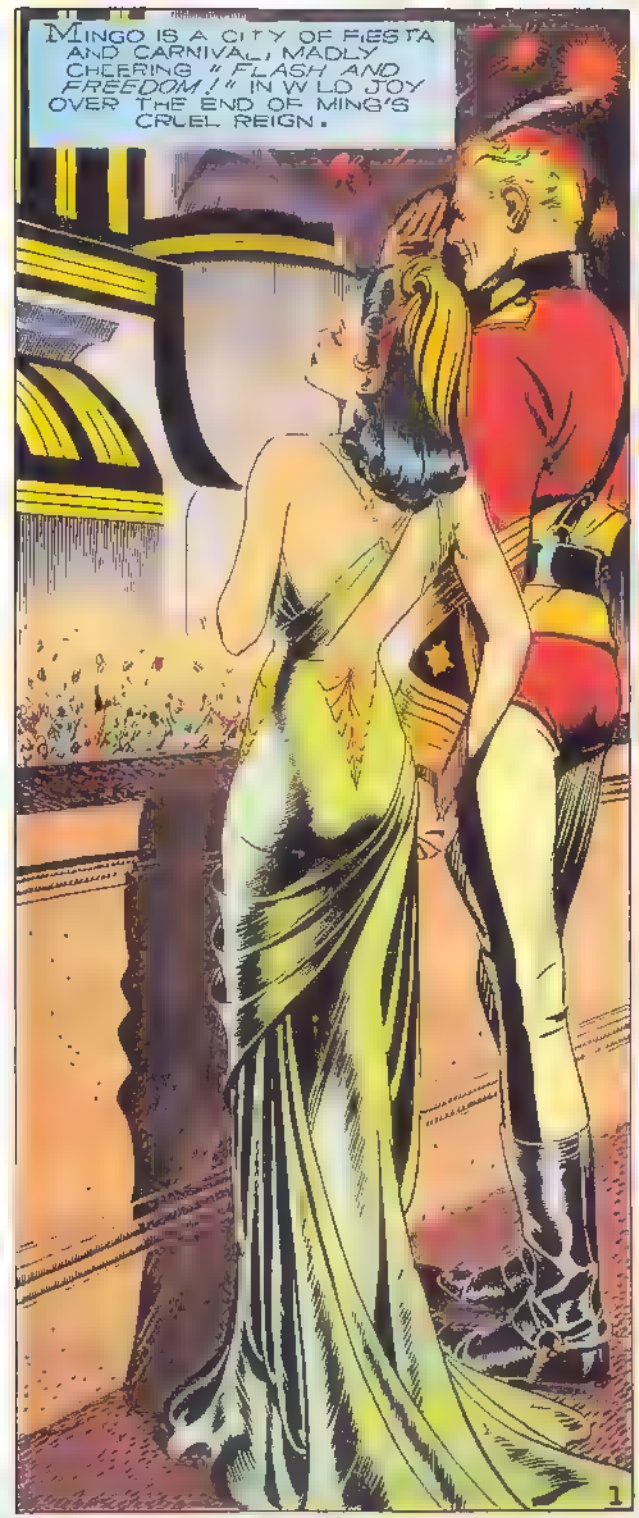
RACING AGAINST TIME, FLASH TRIES TO ORGANIZE FULL CONTROL SO THAT MING CANNOT UPSET HIS PLANS FOR FREEING THE EMPIRE OF MONGO —


FLASH'S LOYAL FREE-
MEN TAKE CARE OF THE HANDFUL OF MING'S HENCHMEN WHO STILL PREFER TYRANNY - THE SECRET POLICE ARE LOCKED IN THEIR OWN CONCENTRATION CAMP!

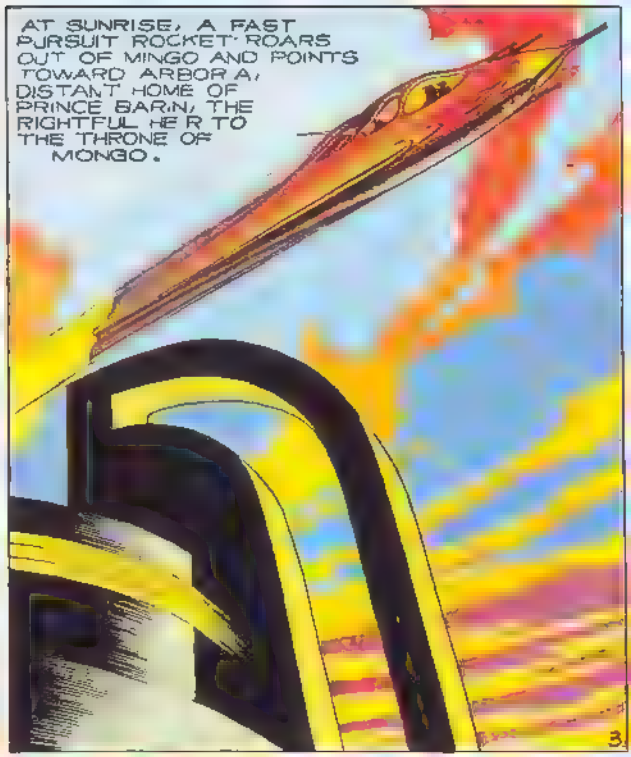
WILD RUMORS SPREAD OVER THE AROUSED NATION. SUDDENLY, EVERY NEWSPAPER AND SPACEOPHONE SHRIEKS THE GOOD NEWS--FLASH GORDON HAS ENDED MING'S TYRANNY---
MONGO IS FREE

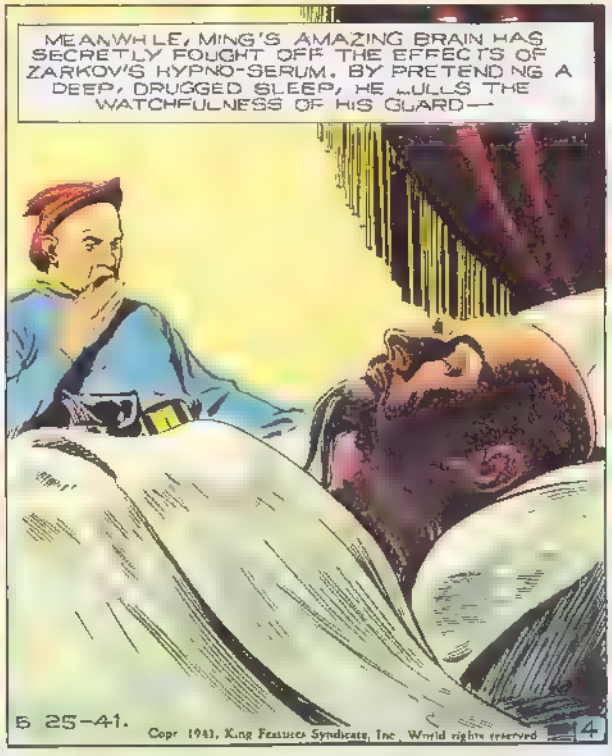
WHILE THE WHOLE NATION INDULGES IN MAD CELEBRATION, A GUARD OF HONOR RUSHES DALE TO THE PALACE. HER HEART IS ON HER LIPS AS SHE PROUDLY AND SWEETLY BESTOWS THE VICTOR'S REWARD.

BUT MING'S MIGHTY BRAIN IS FIGHTING OFF THE EFFECTS OF THE HYPNO-SERUM, WHICH WOULD HOLD A LESSER MAN HELPLESS FOR A MONTH. SHREWDLY, HE PRETENDS TO STAY IN A TRANCE, WHILE HE SCHEMES DESPERATELY.
Next Week
MING STRIKES BACK
5-18-41.


MINGO IS A CITY OF FIESTA AND CARNIVAL, MADLY CHEERING "FLASH AND FREEDOM!" IN WILD JOY OVER THE END OF MING'S CRUEL REIGN.
1

FLASH, ZARKOV AND ERGON WORK TIRELESSLY IN SOLVING THE MANY PROBLEMS OF FOUNDING A FREE, JUST AND SAFE GOVERNMENT — "WE'RE READY FOR BARIN," SAYS FLASH. "I'LL SEND FOR HIM IN THE MORNING. IT WILL BE UP TO YOU, ERGON, TO SEE THAT MING IS WELL GUARDED."
2


AT SUNRISE, A FAST PURSUIT ROCKET ROARS OUT OF MINGO AND POINTS TOWARD ARBORIA, DISTANT HOME OF PRINCE BARIN, THE RIGHTFUL HEIR TO THE THRONE OF MONGO.
3


MEANWHILE, MING'S AMAZING BRAIN HAS SECRETLY FOUGHT OFF THE EFFECTS OF ZARKOV'S HYPNO-SERUM. BY PRETENDING A DEEP, DRUGGED SLEEP, HE LULLS THE WATCHFULNESS OF HIS GUARD—
5-25-41.
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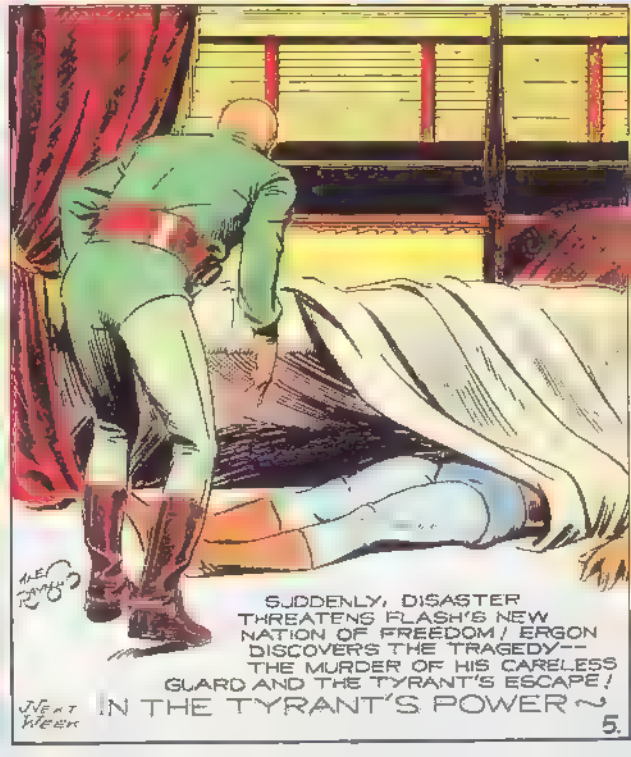
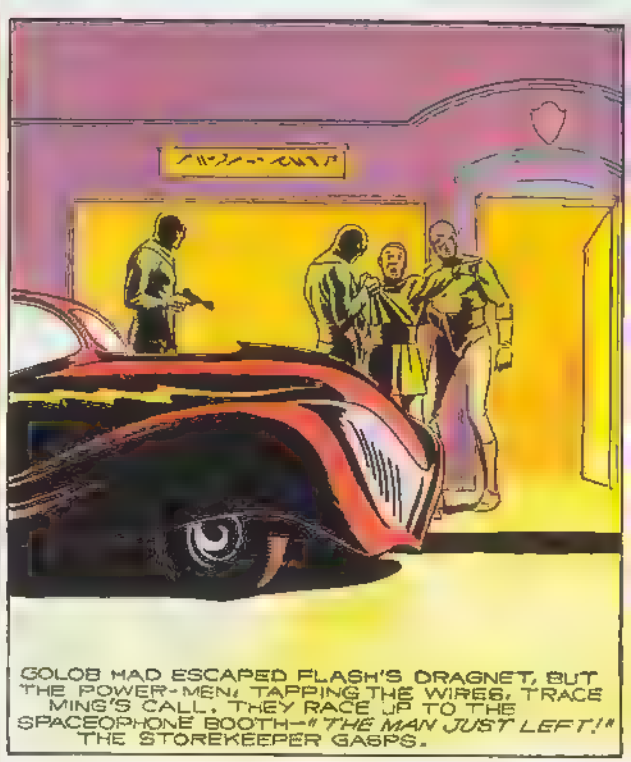
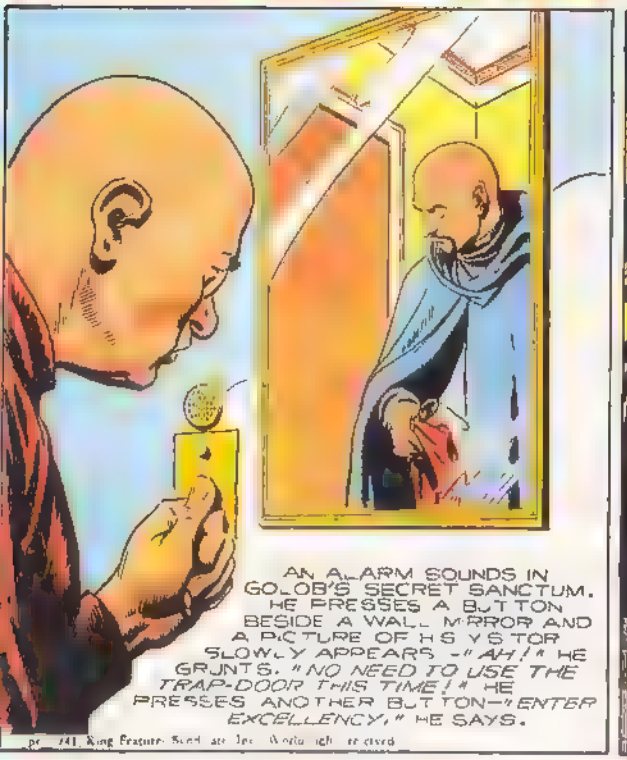
4


SUDDENLY, DISASTER THREATENS FLASH'S NEW NATION OF FREEDOM! ERGON DISCOVERS THE TRAGEDY— THE MURDER OF HIS CARELESS GUARD AND THE TYRANT'S ESCAPE!
NEXT WEEK IN THE TYRANT'S POWER ~
5.





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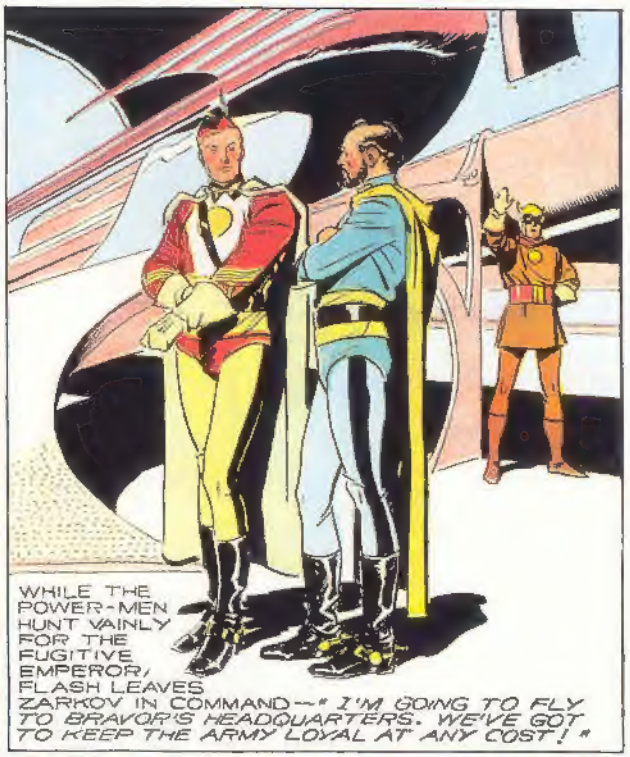

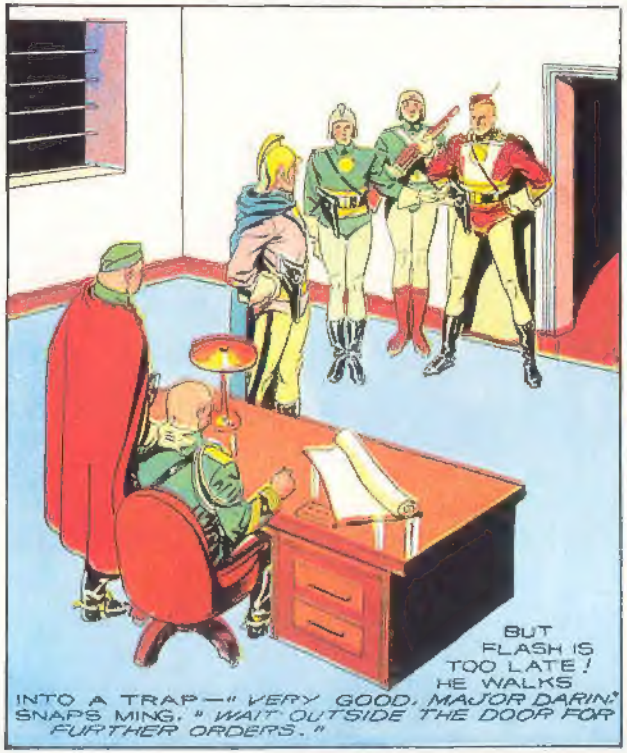

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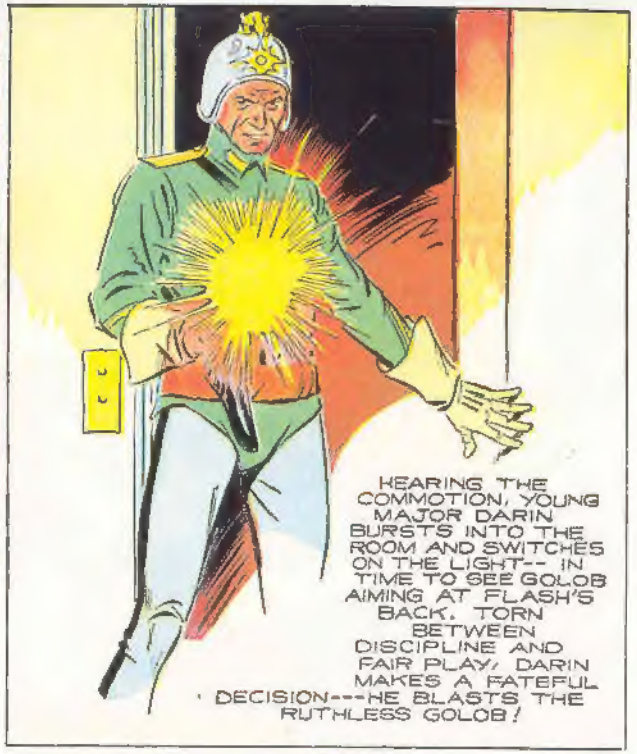
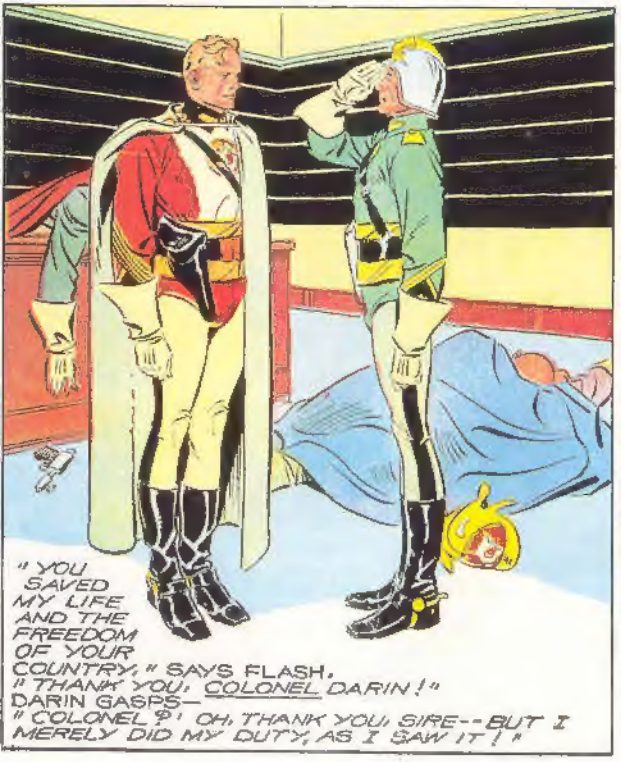
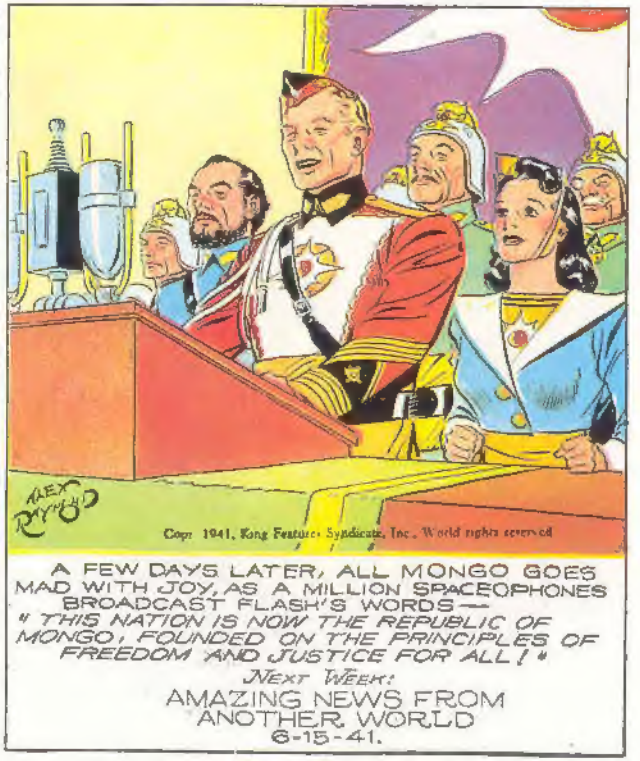
WITH THE AID OF GOLOB, EVIL GENIUS OF THE SECRET POLICE, MING HAS SEIZED CONTROL OF THE ARMY. HE HAS FLASH ARRESTED. AS MING RAISES HIS GUN TO PERSONALLY EXECUTE HIM, FLASH STRIKES LIKE A THUNDERBOLT---AND A NATION'S FATE HANGS IN THE BALANCE---

FLASH TWISTS THE GUN FROM MING'S FINGERS, THEN STRIKES WITH ALL HIS SUPERB STRENGTH. MING FALLS, CRUSHED AND PARALYZED--- BUT GOLOB, REGAINING HIS WITS, DRAWS HIS RAY-PISTOL---


HEARING THE COMMOTION, YOUNG MAJOR DARIN BURSTS INTO THE ROOM AND SWITCHES ON THE LIGHT-- IN TIME TO SEE GOLOB AIMING AT FLASH'S BACK. TORN BETWEEN DISCIPLINE AND FAIR PLAY, DARIN MAKES A FATEFUL DECISION---HE BLASTS THE RUTHLESS GOLOB!


"YOU SAVED MY LIFE AND THE FREEDOM OF YOUR COUNTRY," SAYS FLASH. "THANK YOU, COLONEL DARIN!" DARIN GASPS— "COLONEL?! OH, THANK YOU, SIRE--BUT I MERELY DID MY DUTY, AS I SAW IT!"

BOWED WITH GRIEF, THE DAZED AND BEWILDERED GENERAL BRAVOR FACES FLASH— "I'M SORRY, SIRE---I'VE FAILED YOU--I'LL RESIGN MY COMMISSION---" "NO!" SAYS FLASH, "YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS ITS TALENTED MEN--NOW, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE!"


ALEX RAYMOND
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A FEW DAYS LATER, ALL MONGO GOES MAD WITH JOY, AS A MILLION SPACEOPHONES BROADCAST FLASH'S WORDS— "THIS NATION IS NOW THE REPUBLIC OF MONGO, FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!"
NEXT WEEK:
AMAZING NEWS FROM ANOTHER WORLD
6-15-41.

1. FLASH GORDON'S SENSATIONAL OVERTHROW OF MING'S GOVERNMENT IS WILDLY CELEBRATED BY THE CITIZENS OF MONGO, WHO, FOR GENERATIONS, HAD WRITHED UNDER THE BRUTAL HEEL OF OPPRESSION---

FLASH ANNOUNCES THAT HE HAS CALLED A COUNCIL OF THE OUTSTANDING LEADERS OF EVERY SECTION OF THE NEW-BORN REPUBLIC---

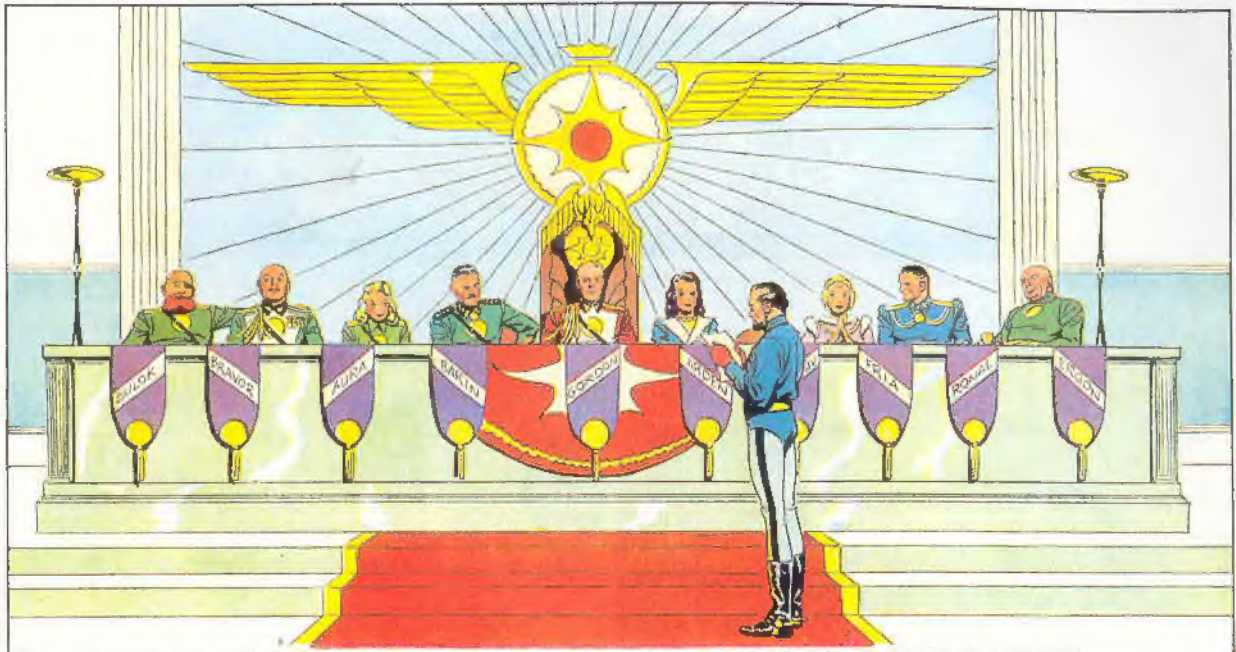
AMONG THOSE CALLED ARE BARIN, RIGHTFUL HEIR TO THE THRONE OF MONGO--NOW THE STRONG, JUST AND BELOVED RULER OF ARBORIA---

--THE QUEEN OF ARBORIA, BARIN'S WIFE, AURA--MING'S BEAUTIFUL AND BRILLIANT DAUGHTER, WHO LOATHES ALL THAT HER FATHER STOOD FOR---

BLONDE FRIA, QUEEN OF THE FROZEN NORTHLANDS OF FRIGIA--LOVED BY HER HARDY PEOPLE AND HER NEW HUSBAND, PRINCE RONAL---

--RONAL, FRIA'S HUSBAND AND HER PRINCE CONSORT--KIND, FEARLESS--A BLOOD-RELATIVE OF BARIN---

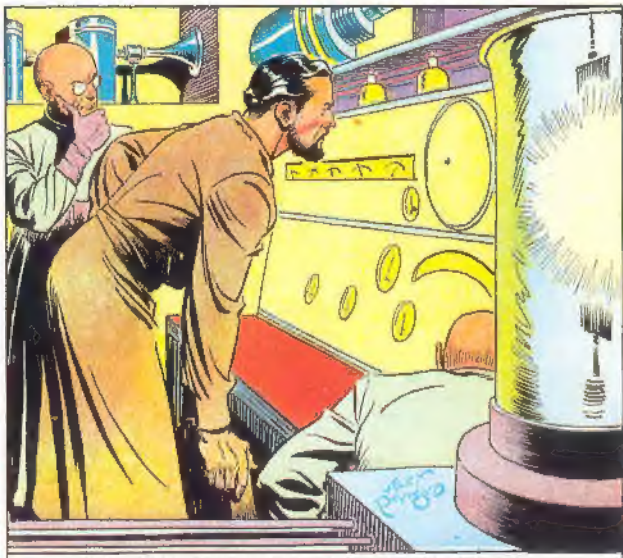
ERGON---THE BLUFF AND BRAINY HEAD OF MONGO'S ENGINEERS AND TECHNICAL MEN--NEWLY ELECTED LEADER OF FLASH'S FREEMEN.



2. A FEW DAYS LATER, ZARKOV REVIEWS THE FINAL DECISIONS OF THE GREAT CONSTITUTIONAL COUNCIL—"IT IS OUR UNANIMOUS DECISION THAT THE EMPIRE OF MONGO SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS THE UNITED REPUBLICS OF MONGO. ITS GOVERNMENT SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE. OUR CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY IS FLASH GORDON---BUT, AT HIS REQUEST, BARIN'S NAME SHALL ALSO BE PLACED IN NOMINATION."

WHILE THE WHOLE NATION IS IN HOLIDAY MOOD, CELEBRATING ITS NEW FREEDOM, DR. ZARKOV REVELS IN ITS AMAZING, BUT NEGLECTED LABORATORIES. HE POINTS TO THE IMAGE-FIELD OF A GREAT ELECTRON-TELESCOPE—"LOOK, FLASH--OUR OWN BELOVED WORLD!"

3.



4. ZARKOV'S HARD-DRIVEN CORPS OF SCIENTISTS FINALLY ACHIEVE THEIR GOAL--THEY INTERCEPT RADIO WAVES FROM THE EARTH. BUT THE NEWS IS APPALLING--"A NEW WORLD WAR---MECHANIZED INVASION---THE RED SWORD, STUKIN, IS ON THE MARCH---"

NEXT WEEK:
A GREAT DECISION
6-22-41.

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HE CONFRONTS FLASH AND DALE WITH THE APPALLING NEWS---
"ZARKOV," SAYS FLASH, "YOU MADE A ROCKET-SHIP THAT GOT US TO THIS PLANET. YOU MUST INVENT ONE TO CARRY US BACK TO EARTH!"

FLASH SHAKES HIS HEAD---"PEACE? HAPPINESS? HOW COULD WE REST, KNOWING THAT WE HAVE IN OUR HANDS THE KNOWLEDGE, FORMULAS AND WEAPONS TO SAVE OUR EARTH FROM THE SCOURGE THAT THREATENS TO CONSUME IT? THERE WILL BE NO PEACE FOR ME UNTIL ALL MEN ARE FREE!"

DALE TURNS AWAY---"YES---YOU'RE RIGHT, FLASH. I'M ASHAMED OF MY SELFISHNESS. YOUR CAUSE IS MINE--ALWAYS WILL BE."

GRATEFUL TO FLASH FOR THEIR FREEDOM, ALL MONGO'S SCIENTISTS POOL THEIR VAST KNOWLEDGE AND THEIR MOST CHERISHED FORMULAS TO HELP HIM FIGHT THE INVASION OF "THE RED SWORD."

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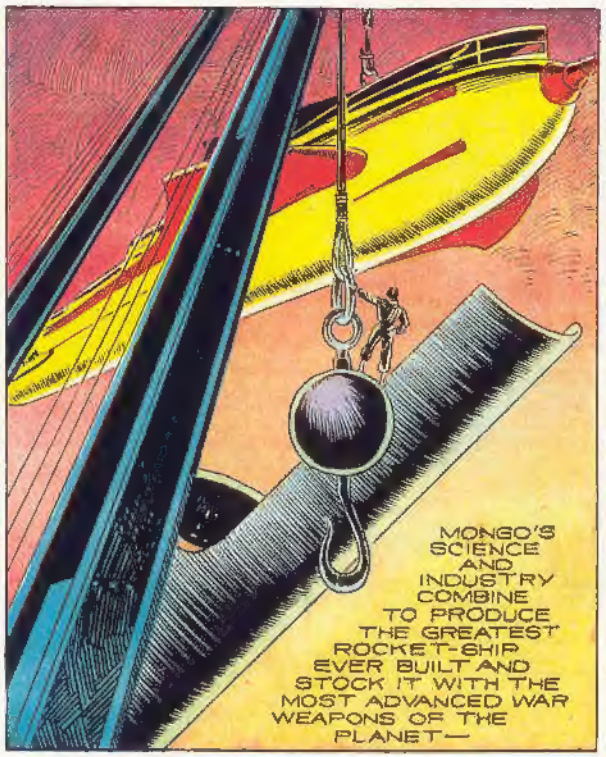
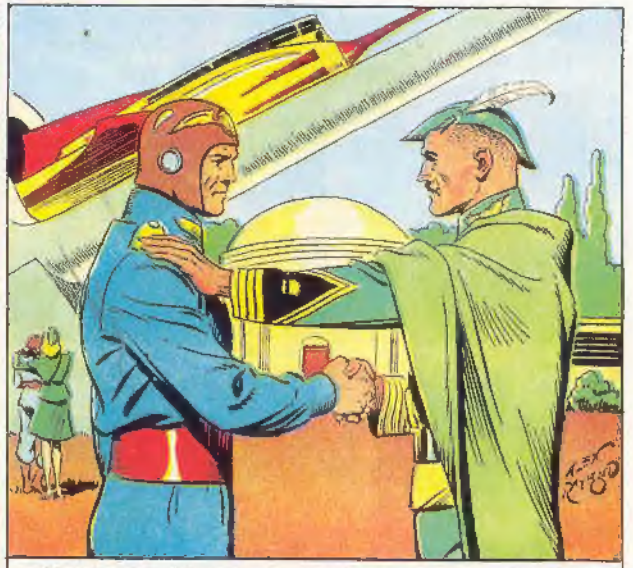
6-29-41.



MONGO'S SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY COMBINE TO PRODUCE THE GREATEST ROCKET-SHIP EVER BUILT AND STOCK IT WITH THE MOST ADVANCED WAR WEAPONS OF THE PLANET—



THE FATEFUL DAY OF DEPARTURE ARRIVES, AND FLASH AND BARIN, WITH UNASHAMED TEARS IN THEIR EYES, BID FAREWELL—
"GOODBYE, OLD FRIEND," SAYS FLASH, "I LEAVE MONGO AND ITS PEOPLE IN YOUR HANDS--WITH YOU AS PRESIDENT, THEIR LIBERTY WILL BE SAFE!"

NEXT WEEK:
INTO UNCHARTED SPACE